Ann Arbor Observer

March 2007

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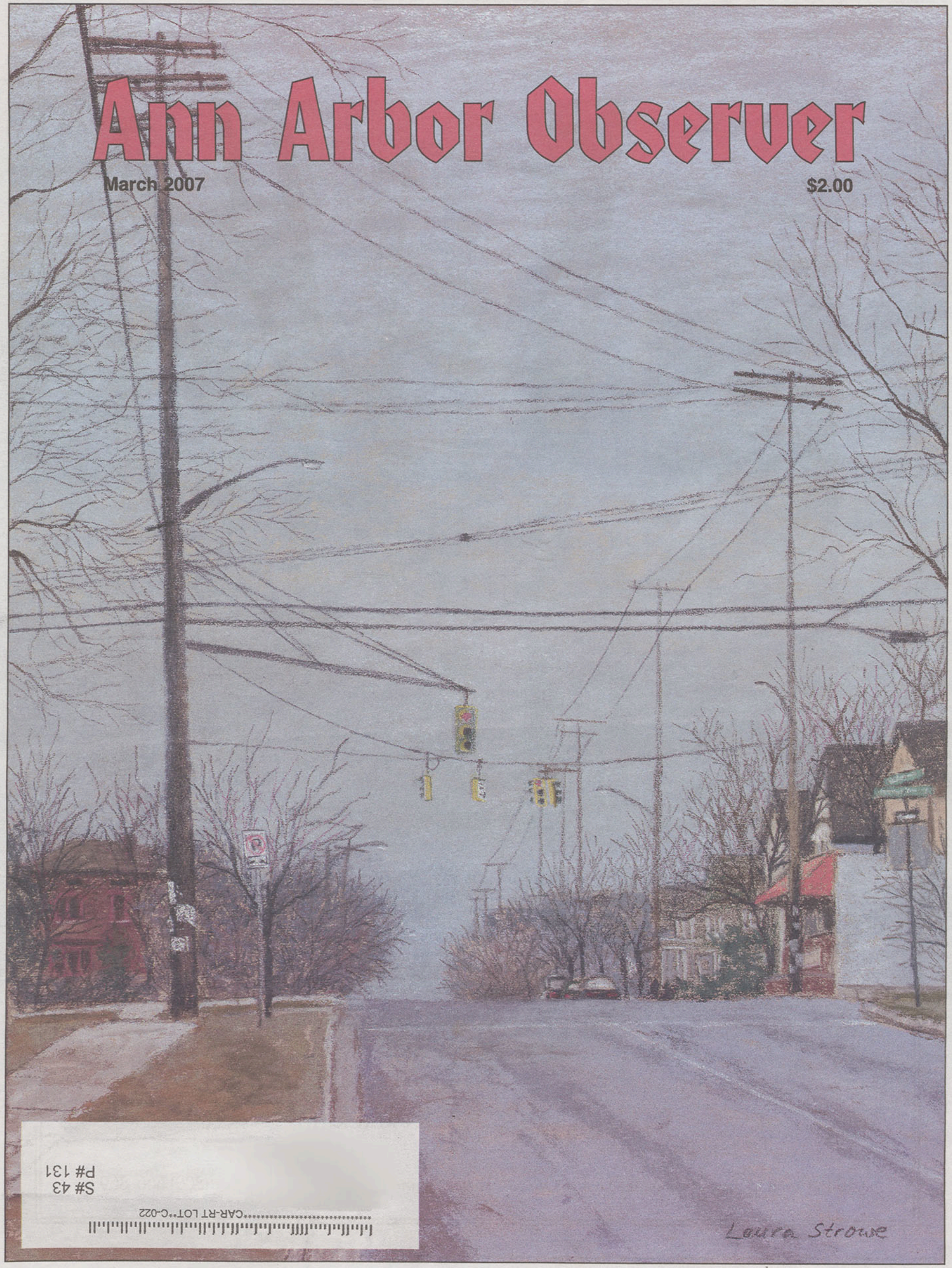

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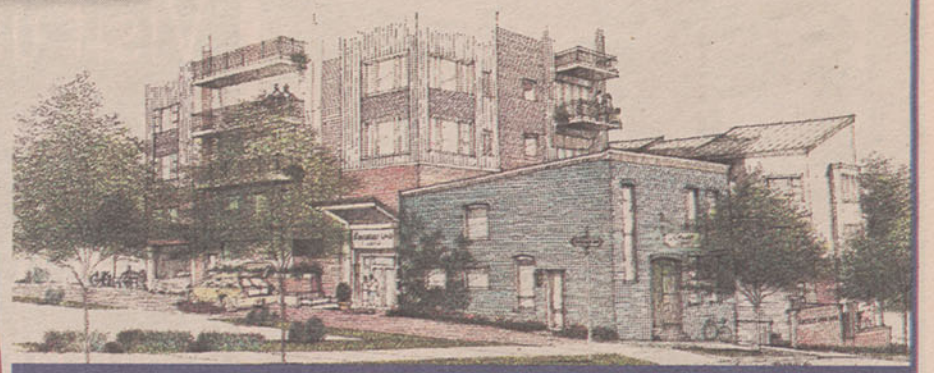

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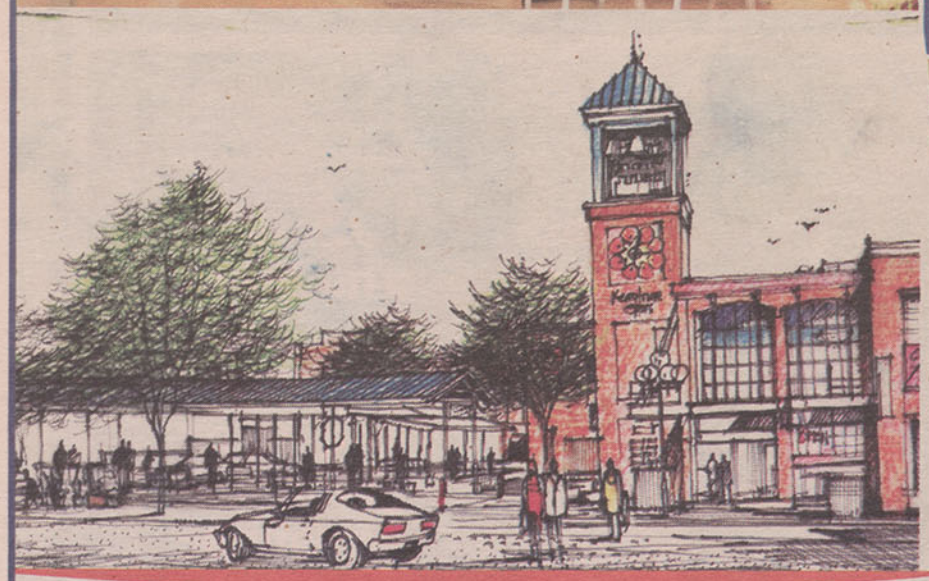

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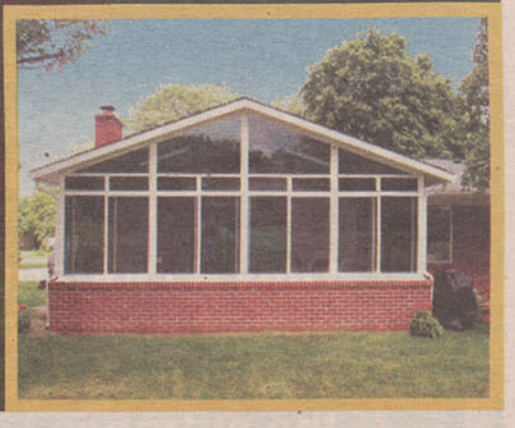

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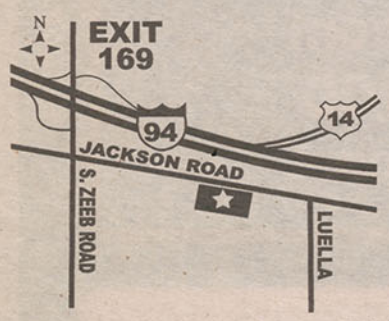

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Touchstone Cohousing

If there is a crisis when you are not at home, what will your neighbors do?

The power of a close-knit neighborhood was clearly demonstrated recently at Touchstone Cohousing. One of our members had a disaster. While she was at work, an attic water pipe broke during a remodeling project and flooded her entire condominium. By the time she returned, a large group of neighbors were hard at work cleaning up for her, and within hours, all her possessions had been moved into a vacant home.

Robin sent along a note to her neighbors: "Hi great and fabulous neighbors. I don't even know how to put into words how grateful I feel about the level of emotional support and responsive action offered to me these past days. I feel I have been carried through this event, and feel the power of this community. Instead of feeling anxious or distraught, I'm amazingly calm, a result of your support. It was amazing how many people were already responding to my crisis, before I even arrived home. You all were already mopping up, moving my things in to my temporary home. You also took care of me , with chocolate, flowers, gifts...and keeping me company into the wee hours. It would have felt so different if I had had to ship stuff to storage and live in a hotel somewhere away from all of you."

With love and a big hug,
Robin

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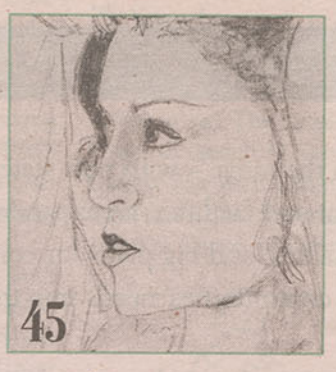

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Everyone's a critic: Spammers have invaded the University Musical Society's online forum. Marketing director

Sara Billmann says UMS started "Be a Critic" to let audiences share their comments and "enliven the dialogue and debate about performances." But to the group's chagrin, it's also attracted businesses posting ads and links promising nude girls and penis enlargements. UMS has tried a dozen spam filters, but ads continue to creep in and have to be manually removed each day.

Billmann stresses that the society staff never edits or censors legitimate messages—even the most critical. Several people who commented on violinist Joshua Bell's February 3 performance, for instance, thought Bell's pianist was trying to upstage him. And it seems one sensitive listener barely survived the London Philharmonic's November 30 concert. User "AMS2001" blasted the orchestra's performance of Brahms's Second Symphony as "just torture."

From Bauhaus to WCC: The title of retired art prof Fred Horowitz's new book is a mouthful: *Josef Albers: To Open Eyes—The Bauhaus, Black Mountain College, and Yale*. But Horowitz and collaborator Brenda Danilowitz had a lot of ground to cover tracing the transcontinental career of the German émigré artist and teacher (1888–1976). Though dozens of books have been published about his art, "there are no other books on Albers's teaching," Horowitz says. "I don't know of any other books about a teacher's teaching—maybe because most great artists don't teach; Albers was a striking exception." Fifty years ago, as a Yale art student, Horowitz experienced firsthand how Albers replaced traditional methods of teaching by example and precept with rigorous exploration of materials, form, and color. In a color class, for instance, instead of imitating the Dutch masters, students might place identical red-orange squares on chartreuse and fuchsia backgrounds to study the way context changes the way color is perceived. In a design class, Albers would challenge them to fold, cut, or otherwise alter a plain piece of paper to create something he'd never seen before—without adding to it or taking away any part.

Horowitz brought Albers's approach to Washtenaw Community College, where he taught studio art and art appreciation for thirty-five years. As head of the art department, he also mentored younger teachers—so the Albers aura remains firmly in place there, despite Horowitz's retirement in 2003. And it's still paying dividends: Horowitz says that graduates of the community college are admitted to the best art schools in the country.

i9 Sports: Can a business find a niche among the nonprofits that sponsor most youth sports? John and Kara Christian are betting it can. The couple left jobs on Wall Street to launch i9 Sports of Washtenaw County last year, joining a national franchise chain that currently claims more than 100,000 players in twenty-five states. The

company distinguishes itself from less expensive nonprofits like Rec & Ed and the YMCA by promoting the simplicity of what it calls "the i9 experience": a zippy website makes online registration easy, the office is always staffed for calls, and i9 personnel attend every game. "All the parents have to do is show up with their kids," Kara says. The company currently has leagues for flag football (ages five to fifteen) and instructional basketball (ages six to eleven). All teams are coed, and they focus on participation over winning—everyone gets equal playing time. For some parents, though, the biggest draw may be that i9's fees cover all costs: the website boasts that the company has "Absolutely No Fund-Raisers of Any Kind!"

Fighting hep C: Forget chicken soup. Debbie Green is aiming to take the healing power of food to a whole new level. Green, a recently retired teacher of English as a second language, has published her own cookbook to raise money to benefit hepatitis C research at the U-M.

Back before blood was screened for the insidious virus, Green says, a relative of hers contracted "hep C" from a transfusion. Like many other patients, her relative had no immediate symptoms—and recoiled from the harsh standard treatment. Astonished to learn that as many as 4 million Americans may be infected, Green decided to take on the dual challenges of raising awareness of hepatitis C and raising money to fund research. So she and her husband, Ted, established the Greenview Foundation with the goal of raising $50,000 in 2007 and another $100,000 in 2008.

Cooking around the World is their first fund-raiser. Green had already put together about 100 family recipes for her two daughters when they went off to school; for the book, she added international

recipes collected during her twenty-five years teaching at Access International Language Institute. It's available at Nicola's Books and Shaman Drum Bookshop and from her website, hepcfund.org. The cookbook costs $15, and $11 of that goes directly to U-M hepatitis C research and education. She'll be signing books—and serving samples—at Nicola's on March 6 (see Events).

Global accents: The new ATM in the TCF Bank branch at Liberty and Division has an automated female voice that speaks soothingly ("Please wait while your transaction is processing") to customers on the bank's behalf. Customers aware that TCF headquarters lies in heavily Scandinavian Minnesota might expect the machine to sound something like Frances McDormand in *Fargo* or Irene Dunne in *I Remember Mama*. Instead, with its decidedly British accent, it sounds much more like Deborah Kerr in *The King and I* or Greer Garson in *Mrs. Miniver*. Were TCF executives straining for a non-

Minnesotan, maybe less provincial feel? Their corporate communications director says they took what the manufacturer gave them: the machine was made by NCR in Dundee, UK, and the voice is Scottish.

The voice may soon be NCR's only surviving vestige of Scotland—in January, the company announced that it's closing the Dundee plant and consolidating ATM manufacturing for the Eastern Hemisphere in cheaper Beijing, Pondicherry (India), and Budapest. So Old World bank customers may start hearing a voice sounding like the Gabor sisters. NCR will be outsourcing its ATMs for the Americas, with a voice TBA.

Dracula beware! What's up with that giant head of garlic hanging over the entrance to the Quarter Bistro in Westgate? "We use it to ward off evil spirits and for good luck to keep the restaurant open," jokes manager Brad Fisher. Brothers Jimmy, George, and Theo Michos had

the six-foot herb custom made for one of their Cottage Inn pizza places almost ten years ago but never got around to installing it. They stored it at their Cottage Inn commissary until the bistro opened in August 2005. It took a crane and a construction crew to hoist the big bulb into place. "It's made of cement and steel mesh," explains Fisher. "It's actually kind of heavy." Not everyone loves the peculiar landmark, but everybody notices it. " 'Like it or not, it's a conversation piece'—that's what Theo says," explains Fisher, laughing.

Ann Arbor farewell: Even in a city accustomed to seeing teens and young adults à la punk, the young woman working concessions at the State Theater recently was a standout: tongue clip, nose ring, and short hair in three different colors—pink, green, and (perhaps) natural brown. Her tip cup featured a note that announced, "Yo! Today's my last day. Share the love." When a curious older customer asked where she was going, Ms. Punk sang out, "Philadelphia." Asked whether she had a job there, the answer was an equally cheerful "No." Why donate to an unemployed adult? "I'll get a job. I just don't know where," Ms. Punk promised. Satisfied, the moviegoer added a dollar to the small amount in the cup—after first being assured that the bizarre icon on the young woman's black T-shirt had no sinister connotations. "It's just, you know, a symbol," said the soon-to-be denizen of the City of Brotherly Love.

What does it cost?

$5—Reuben sandwich at Zingerman's when the deli opened in 1982

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Ann Arbor Public Schools

A conversation about public school financing with Robert Allen, Deputy Superintendent for Operations, Ann Arbor Public Schools

Q. How do public schools get the money they need to operate?

A. Michigan school districts are funded based on the number of students enrolled in the district, also known as the "Foundation Allowance" or "Foundation Grant." The foundation allowance is based on a funding formula which provides for a per-pupil distribution of state aid. The formula uses the actual number of pupil memberships (converted to full-time equivalents) for the February and September student count days. A 25% and a 75% blend are used respectively.

Q. Why are so many school districts facing financial crisis?

A. Many schools are facing a financial crisis because for the last five years that the state has given schools increases, twice they have reduced the increases in the middle of the fiscal year. We may again face this reduction for this fiscal year. Five years ago the retirement rate that schools are mandated to pay to the State Retirement System increased by 36%. In the last five years health care has increased approximately 10% per year or 50%. The combination of lack of funding from the state and expenditure inflationary increases are major contributors to this financial crisis.

Q. How has Proposal A impacted schools?

A. Proposal A changed the funding base from being predominantly generated from local property taxes to being predominantly from the state sales tax. It was an attempt to level the playing field for funding education statewide. Proposal A works really well in good economic times, but when economic times are bad Proposal A cannot generate the necessary funding for schools, because the sales tax is not a stable funding source. Sales tax revenues fluctuate with the economy. Of note also is that Proposal A has been tweaked so many times by reducing taxes to the tune of about $500 million per year.

Q. Why can't school districts just ask voters for more money?

A. With the passage of Proposal A, local districts are no longer permitted to levy additional taxes to fund operating costs for education. Local districts can ask voters for funding only for capital projects, such as building new schools or renovating existing ones.

Q. Lots of school districts have passed sinking funds or bonds to pay for new buildings or renovations. Why not just use that money to pay for operations?

A. It is illegal to use sinking fund dollars and/or bond funds for operations such as paying teacher and administrator salaries.

Q. School officials talk all the time about retirement costs and health care costs affecting budgets. Why can't districts just offer fewer benefits or pay less retirement?

A. 85%-90% of the district's operating costs are in salaries and benefits. Benefit costs, specifically health care, have been rising at an alarming rate nationally. Health care has increased on average about 10% a year in the last five years. Retirement as a percentage of an individual's salary has increased from approximately 5% in 1994 to 17.74% in 2007. Of note is that every school employee is mandated by law to be part of the Michigan Public Schools Employee Retirement System (MPSERS); therefore schools do not control how much they pay in to the retirement system or what retirement benefit level they will provide their employees.

Q. School officials talk about "structural deficits." What does this mean?

A. This term is often used to describe our current funding structure. A structural deficit occurs when an organization's expenditures are increasing at a greater rate than its revenues. To correct structural deficits, fundamental structural changes need to take place. For example, the state might have to change Proposal A significantly in order to receive more revenue to adequately finance schools.

Q. Can't districts just make lots of cuts and solve these problems?

A. No. Districts cannot cut their way out of a structural deficit. It's important to note that the deficit will occur annually unless something in the structure changes, so either the revenues have to increase to keep pace with the rising cost of expenditures or the costs have to be reduced to match the revenues. Districts have been reducing their budgets over the last 5 or 6 years, but there is only so much that can be reduced from the operating budget before the quality of education is adversely affected. At some point if the quality of education gets to a point where it is no longer attractive to the constituents of the district, those constituents will choose other options. Loss of students equates to loss of revenues for a school, which will also affect the district negatively.

Q. What's the solution to these problems?

A. The state has to come up with an equitable and adequate way to fund education in the state of Michigan.

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The *News* Cuts Back

First the Ann Arbor News *shrank. Now it's cutting jobs—lots of them.*

The paper's January redesign wasn't just cosmetic—it saved money by eliminating the separate local news section and switching to narrower paper stock. And that turned out to be just the beginning: in February, the *News* offered buyouts to forty-four veteran staffers—one-sixth of its total workforce.

Like most newspapers, the *News* is losing readers to online and other competitors—its daily circulation is currently just under 52,000, down from 58,000 in 2001. But even by the standards of the struggling industry, its buyout offer is aggressive. "That's a lot of people for a paper of that size," comments Lou Mleczko, president of the Newspaper Guild of Detroit, which represents newsroom staffers at the *Detroit Free Press* and *Detroit News*. The *Ann Arbor News* offer covers 17 percent of the staff at the daily and its sister weekly, *Business Review*. By comparison, a recent buyout at the *Grand Rapids Press*—like the *News*, part of the national Newhouse chain—cut its staff by 7 percent.

According to one newsroom staffer, editor Ed Petykiewicz and publisher Laurel Champion introduced the offer almost casually. "Ed came out and said, 'Laurel wants to talk to you,' " this person recalls. There was no written announcement, and several *News* reporters say they don't know much about the program—"I suspect you know more than I do," one columnist comments.

Champion declined to answer questions about the buyouts, but according to the trade publication *Editor & Publisher*, they're open to workers age fifty or older who've worked at the paper at least ten years. Those who agree to leave will get two weeks' pay for every year of service and medical benefits till age sixty-five or for life, depending on seniority.

Because the cuts are voluntary, one staffer says, most reporters and editors are taking them in stride. According to another, about seventeen editorial employees at the two publications are eligible for the buyouts, and many are considering the offers. "People who at first said 'No way' are thinking about it," this person says.

They'll have until March 23 to decide. But don't expect to see announcements of the impending departures in the *News*. In stark contrast to its wall-to-wall reporting on Pfizer's shutdown, the paper's only coverage of its own cutbacks was a single terse item in the business section—and nothing at all on its website.

In February the News *scolded Pfizer for creating a culture where employees were afraid to talk about their workplace. So it's ironic that a dozen editors, writers, and columnists contacted by the Observer declined to discuss the buyouts. And despite some workers' claims that Newhouse employees are covered by a lifetime job guarantee, two reporters expressed concern that talking to us could jeopardize their careers.*

GRIFFIN LINDSAY

The Ann Arbor News *is offering buyouts to forty-four veteran staffers—one-sixth of its total workforce.*

Washtenaw 2-1-1

A simple number sequence plus a media blitz is helping United Way's new social service hotline catch on.

"We have a little over eight hundred agencies representing thirty-five hundred different services," says Alissa Anderson, supervisor of the call center. Anderson has worked with the center since it began in November 2004. It originally used a seven-digit number, and in its first two years, it processed 13,000 calls. But after the 211 number went live last October, volume soared. Since then, "we've processed about twelve thousand calls on behalf of United Way for Livingston, Washtenaw, and Monroe counties," says Dale Berry of Huron Valley Ambulance, which donates space and personnel to operate the service.

Designed to echo the familiar 911 public safety number, 211 "should be the first number people think of for any health and human service need," Anderson says. According to Berry, "the top three requests are for basic needs—rent, utility payment, assistance, food pantry, and clothing needs—then service providers, and the third most common referrals are criminal justice and legal services."

One call came from an elderly woman whose house had been vandalized. The staff got her in touch with someone to help repair her home. Another woman called after her boyfriend shot at her. The center connected her with a shelter and instructions on how to report the crime.

Other questions change seasonally—at Christmas people call looking for help buying toys for their kids; during tax season they want to know where they can get their taxes done. On a lighter note, laughs Berry, "a man called to find a wedding dress and cowboy boots for his fiancée. . . . I'm not sure how they handled that."

Callers aren't the only ones who benefit from 211's services, notes United Way program manager Bob Miller. By tracking the problems people call about, he says, "for the first time we can really document what needs are being met and what aren't."

Now that the 211 number is up and running, the center is in the middle of a major outreach effort. "Six AATA buses have advertisements for us," says Miller, "and we're working on a jingle."

MARK BIALEK

Almost 12,000 people have called 211 since it launched in October.

The Problem with Plastic

College Shoe Repair feels the rub of tennis shoes and throwaways.

In the back room at College Shoe Repair on William Street, you can still sometimes spot seventy-eight-year-old Bill Brown bent over the sander, repairing soles. More often than not, though, the machinery is silent.

When he began working at the family shop at age sixteen, Bill says, "I used to do fifty, sixty soles a day." Now, "maybe we do five or six. We didn't have one yesterday."

Bill's father and grandfather started the

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business in 1933. Bill's father had a U-M pharmacy degree, but during the Depression, the only job he could find was pressing clothes at the College Cleaners on Thompson Street. At that time, College Shoe Repair was next to the cleaners. The cleaners eventually laid Bill's dad off, but luckily, around the same time, "the man who owned the shoe repair just left," Bill says. His father took over the shop and learned to fix shoes.

In 1949 the business moved to its current location at 607 East William, alongside White Market. "We replaced ladies' heels for nineteen cents," Bill remembers. "There were no throwaways then." Instead of running shoes, "students wore penny loafers. . . : They'd fix them over and over again."

When their dad died of a heart attack at fifty, Bill and his sister, Lou, took over. In the 1960s they bought their building—the secret to survival for many small family businesses in downtown Ann Arbor. With two other partners, they paid $125,000 for it.

Bill met his wife, Dorothy, at Drake's Sandwich Shop on North U, and their seven children grew up in the shoe business. "We used to have stacks to dye at Easter," recalls daughter Dale Ann, who works behind the counter on Thursdays and Fridays. Her brother Pat, the manager, is there the rest of the week. With as many as 300 customers a day, "we made a lot of money," Bill says. "It fed all the kids."

But now, he grumbles, even professors "dress like slobs." People buy cheap shoes from China and just throw them away when they get worn. Customers only trickle in, and most of his work is more about gluing than about stitching.

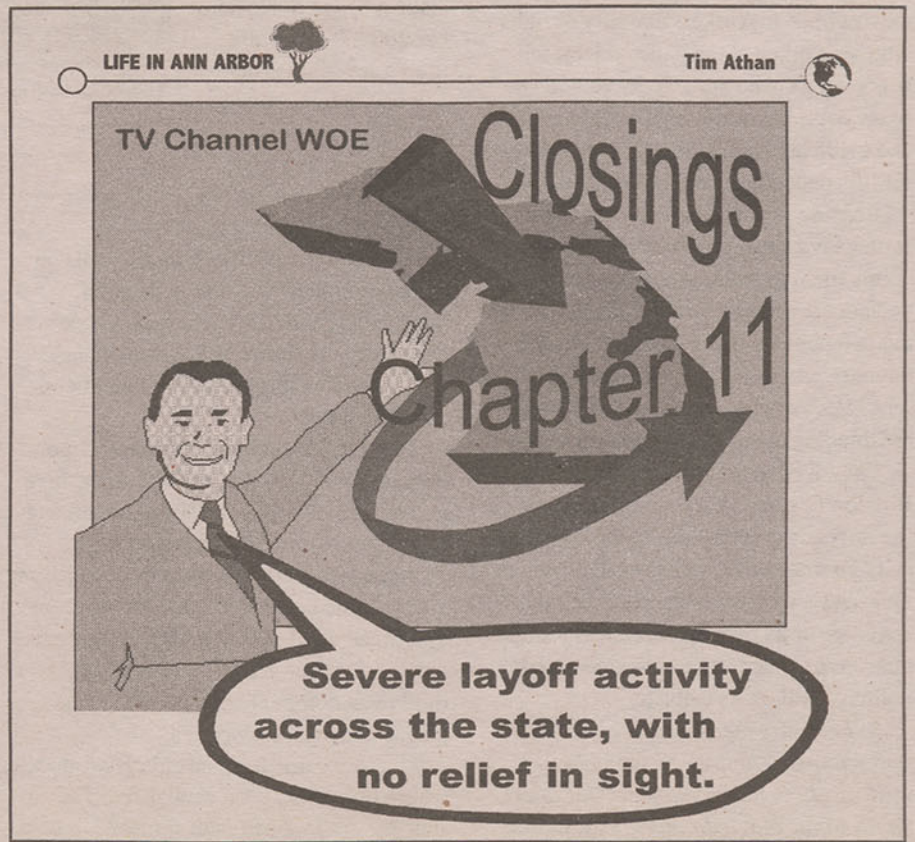
To replace the lost business, the family expanded into hockey equipment. "At first it was the bigger part of our income," says Bill. "But then Play It Again [Sports] came in, the Cube . . . Now every sports store has hockey stuff."

Bill remembers when downtown had seven shoe repair shops. Now there's only one besides College—Park, on Fourth Avenue—and even the suppliers are disappearing. "There are no more suppliers left in Detroit," he says. "It's all shrunk." College Shoe Repair probably wouldn't have survived, either, if it weren't for the building—Bill bought out Lou when she moved to Florida, and now co-owns it with the widow of the former owner of White Market.

Bill says he's gotten offers for the building and the business and is considering selling both. Son Pat has a degree in hotel and restaurant management from MSU and "thinks he wants to get back to working in the food industry," says Bill, sympathetically. "He's got a nice job offer." It looks as if he might get his wish—and his parents' blessing.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

In the days before "throwaway" athletic shoes, Bill Brown used to see hundreds of customers a day. Now his sander often stands silent.



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Connor's Lullaby

A thunderstorm was the muse of a new kids' book.

Kirk Lignell's youthful dreams of being a rock star are pretty much history now that he's a thirty-eight-year-old father of two working at Whirlpool. But smaller dreams are becoming a reality for Lignell this month as he publishes his first children's book and CD.

The idea came in the middle of a stormy night when his four-year-old son, Connor, woke up frightened. "Here's a big scary storm, and it's shaking the house, and Connor was totally freaked out," Lignell recalls. "He crawled into bed with me, and as we lay there, the lyrics and tune just came through." The song he sang to Connor that night described the rain as ponies prancing on the roof, the thunder as a fireworks display, and the lightning as a big camera taking their picture. "I was trying to take something totally scary to a kid and turn it into something fun," Lignell recalls, "take the fear out of it and turn it into sights and sounds and fantasy."

The next morning Lignell wrote down the words and played the folk-lullaby melody on his acoustic guitar for his wife, Susan. She liked "the storm song" so much she encouraged him to turn it into a children's book.

COURTESY HURON RIVER PRESS

Kurt Lignell took the fear out of thunder and lightning for his four-year-old son, Connor.

Lignell pitched the idea to Ann Arbor–based Huron River Press—and when press owner Steve Klein heard the song, Lignell recalls, he said, "That's kinda catchy." Klein approached Borders and Barnes & Noble, got an encouraging response, and decided to take a chance on publishing not only the press's first children's book but its first CD as well.

Lignell's brother, Brent, provided lush watercolor illustrations for Listen to the Raindrops. *The CD was recorded at Solid Sound studios in Ann Arbor—with Connor, his big sister, Morgan, and ten of their friends singing background vocals.*

calls & letters

Lefties prefer ballpoints

To the Observer:

Not everyone has a crush on Parker 51 or any other form of "real" ink pen ("Pursuing a Parker 51," February). I am a member of the left-handed minority who suffered long through grammar school trying to learn to write with ink pens (I got straight Ds and am proud of it).

For those of you who have never thought about it, lefties have to force the nib forward to write in a motion that almost certainly causes the tip to dig into the paper and leave big blobs of ink. Most of us learned to accommodate everyone else's handicap by holding our hand in the overhand style to simulate dragging the pen across the page backwards, as was intended by the right-handed inventers of the instrument of torture.

I am surprised we didn't all have carpal tunnel syndrome by the end of high school. I and all lefties were saved when the first ballpoint pens came out. We were really saved by computer word processing. Good riddance to the "real" pens.

Sincerely,
Michael J. Harrigan Sr.

No coyote calls on Geddes

A February Inside Ann Arbor story misquoted Judy Dobson as saying that she and her husband, Steve, often hear coyotes at their home near Concordia University. On the contrary, Dobson pointed out in a phone call, she told our writer that they do *not* hear the animals. Reviewing her notes, our writer confirmed a simple but appalling confusion: because of delays in obtaining another interview, she waited several months to transcribe the Dobson interview—and then misread her own question as Dobson's answer. We deeply regret the error.

Sanskrit, not Sinti

"I've done a fair amount of reading about Gypsies," wrote Barbara Orzech in a postcard. "You are the only one who says their language is Sinti. Everyone else says it's Romany. Sinti is the name of a Gypsy tribe."

Orzech caught the error in our February feature "Among the Roma." While Sinti is both a Gypsy tribe and a dialect of Romany, it definitely is *not* the language from which Romany is thought to have evolved. In making a last-minute change we confused Sinti with Sanskrit.

COURTESY HURON RIVER PRESS

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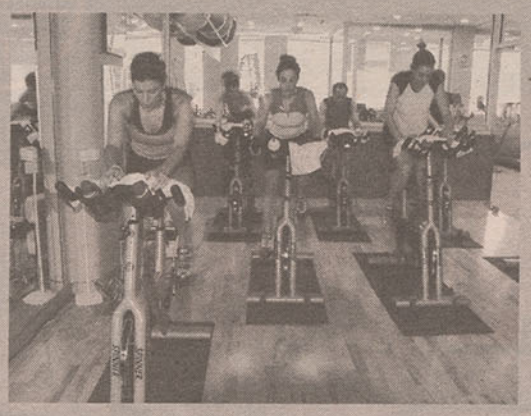

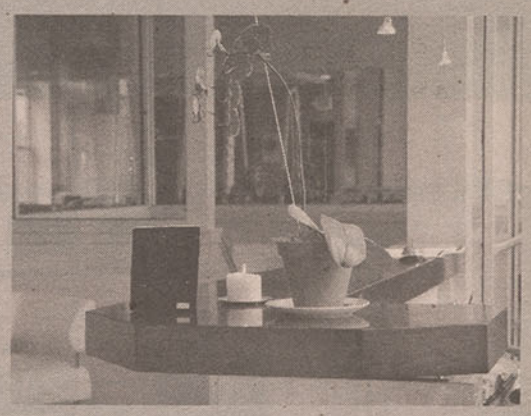

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5:15p	P	S	S	S	S
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What:
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- Review public involvement plan
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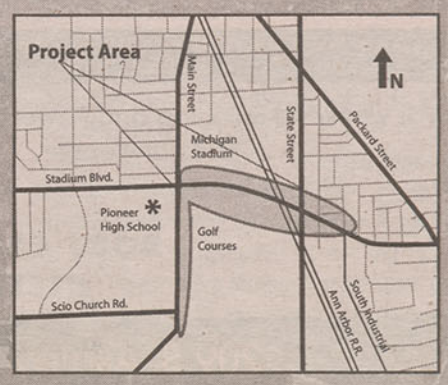
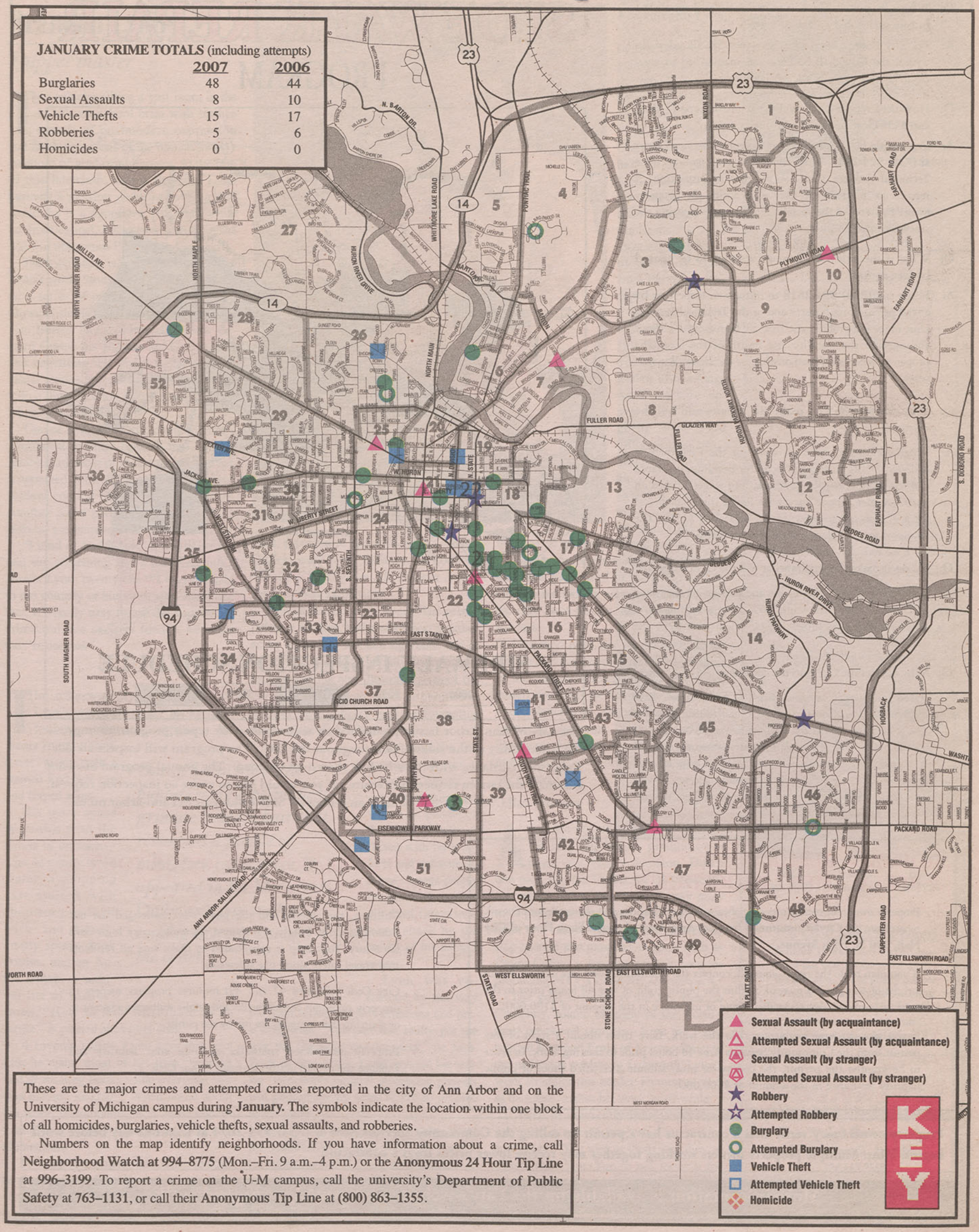


CrimeMap



These are the major crimes and attempted crimes reported in the city of Ann Arbor and on the University of Michigan campus during **January.** The symbols indicate the location within one block of all homicides, burglaries, vehicle thefts, sexual assaults, and robberies.

Numbers on the map identify neighborhoods. If you have information about a crime, call **Neighborhood Watch at 994–8775** (Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.) or the **Anonymous 24 Hour Tip Line** at **996–3199**. To report a crime on the U-M campus, call the university's **Department of Public Safety** at **763–1131**, or call their **Anonymous Tip Line** at **(800) 863–1355**.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: Whose responsibility is it to maintain and repair the public sidewalks and walkways?

A: Per City Code, Chapter 49, Section 4:58, all sidewalks within the City shall be kept and maintained in good repair by the owner of the adjacent land.

Q: How do I report a sidewalk that needs repair? How can I check if my sidewalk needs repair?

A: You simply talk with the City's Customer Service Center at **(734) 994-2818**. This call will trigger a request to the Technical Services Unit for a sidewalk inspection. If repairs are needed, the City will notify the property owner by letter of the specific requirements to bring the sidewalk into compliance.

Q: What if the sidewalk damage appears to be caused by tree roots?

A: Please call **(734) 994-2818** to initiate an inspection by a staff person from forestry and/or the Technical Services Unit to see if a problematic root can be removed without endangering the stability and health of the tree. The property owner is still responsible for the sidewalk repair costs.

Q: Why doesn't the City make the repairs and bill the owners?

A: When contractor's perform work for the City there is additional costs for the contractor for Bonding, Insurance and the requirement to pay prevailing wages. Based on our Customer Service Survey we found the average cost for a 4" slab for homeowner's in 2005 was $130. The City cost for a 4" slab in 2005 was at least $170

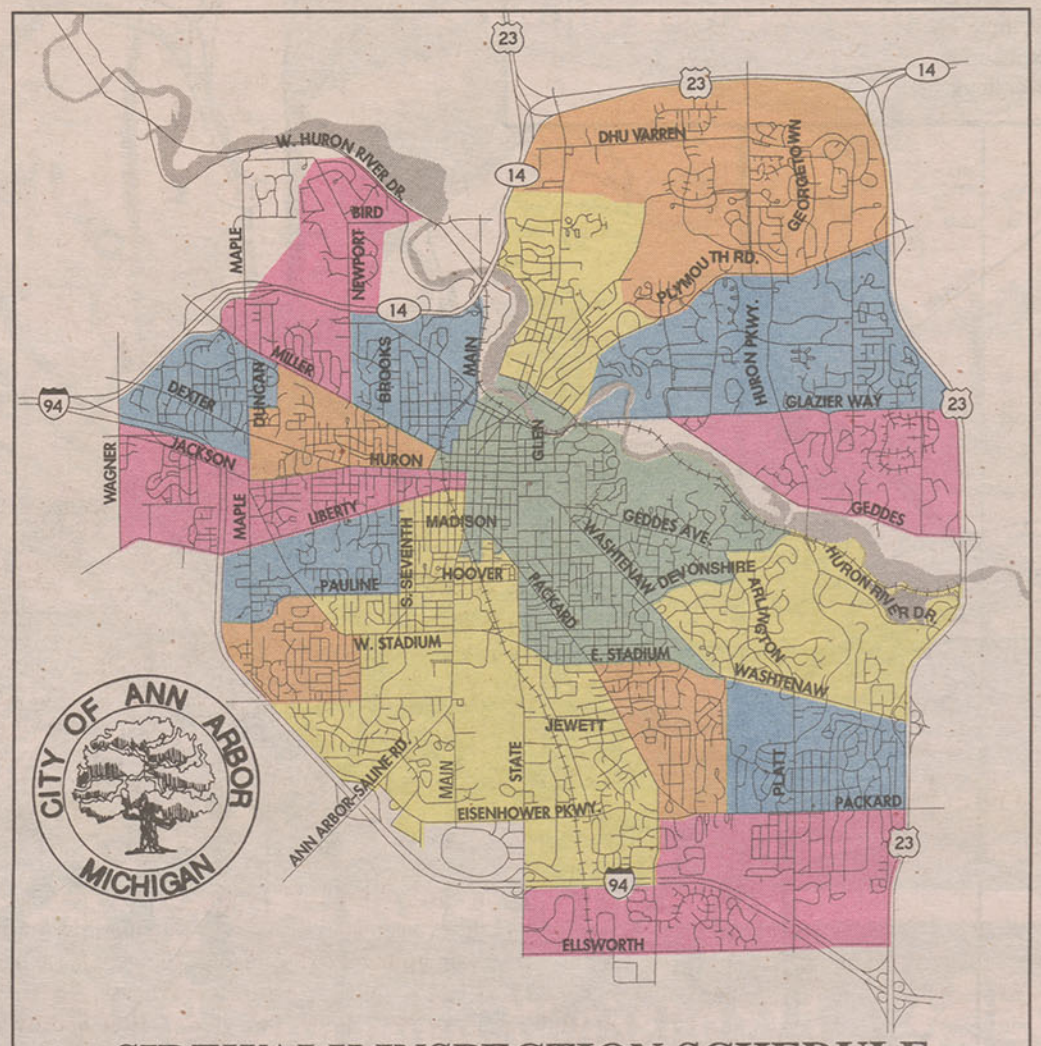
Q: If I don't make the repairs what will the City charge me?

A: The City will make the repairs and pass on all associated costs. In 2005, that would have been a minimum of $170 per slab plus project costs, which were $225 per address.

Q: Why doesn't the City find the contractor for the owner?

A: Based on our Customer Service Survey we have implemented a Contractor Pre-Qualification process. The contractors on the list will be instructed by the City on the procedures of sidewalk repair within the City of Ann Arbor. Contractors will also be rated on their performance by the City and the Customer Service Survey. The ratings will allow us to remove or add contractors based on City and owner experiences.

CITY OF ANN ARBOR
SIDEWALK REPAIR
PROGRAM



The City of Ann Arbor has implemented an annual sidewalk repair program to improve the walk-ability of the sidewalks throughout the City. The program will inspect all sidewalks in accordance with the schedule shown on the map. The annual program does not eliminate the citizen request procedure. If you would like to make an inspection request, you may call (734) 994-2818 or send an e-mail to: Sidewalkrepair@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us

SIDEWALK REPAIR & REPLACEMENT PROCEDURES:

1. Property owners or contractors may obtain the specifications and standards for sidewalk repair from the City's **Community Services Area, located on the Sixth Floor of City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Avenue.**
2. If you plan to do the repair yourself, contact the Community Services Area to obtain a right-of-way permit to work within the public right of way 48 hours prior to the work; you must submit certified proof of insurance in the amount of $100,000.
3. If you plan to have a contractor do the work, have them obtain a right-of-way permit from the Community Services Area 48 hours prior to starting work. In order to be granted the permit, the contractor must submit a certified proof of public liability insurance in the amount of $500,000.

THREE REASONS TO REPAIR YOUR PUBLIC SIDEWALK:

1. Children, the elderly, and the physically challenged use our sidewalks daily. Poorly maintained sidewalks carry high risks for injury. Your help is appreciated to make sure all residents may travel safely along our sidewalks.
2. City Code (chapters 47 and 49) requires property owners to properly maintain the sidewalks and public walkways adjacent to or abutting their property for use by the public.
3. Properly maintained sidewalks decrease your liability and enhance the overall aesthetic image of our City.

Property owners may verify that a contractor has a permit by calling the Community Services Area at (734) 994-2674 at least one day before work begins. Hint: Multiple property owners working together may receive lower prices from a contractor.

More information is available on the City's website at: www.a2gov.org/sidewalk

Brandon Lynn

Puppet master

The cubicles filling a vast room in the U-M's art school brim with bizarre murals of postmodern expression and frank depictions of the human form—creations of graduating seniors. At the rear of this labyrinth, senior Brandon Lynn pursues a passion peculiar even in this world: he is a puppeteer. His craft, while far from extinct, has grown scarcer in the wake of ubiquitous Pixar-style digital art.

Dark comedy is a common thread in Lynn's work. Studying in Ireland, he crafted a series of paper dolls afflicted with physical defects. Influenced by director Tim Burton and macabre illustrator Edward Gorey, his puppets are both human and unsettling. He poses them to create visual stories and photographs the scenes with a digital Canon Rebel against a stark white background.

One of Lynn's favorite puppets wore a permanent grimace beneath hair that resembled a jumble of miniature red scarves. It appeared in the *Michigan Daily* as a gay student coming literally out of a closet. Another scene portrays a doleful-looking redhead's attempt to land a goldfish.

"I kind of find it hard to just come out and say something that's really serious," admits Lynn, twenty-one. "I find it easier to use comedy or humor or something like that. It's really easy to use the puppets [to communicate serious ideas], because they're not real."

The otherworldly eccentricity of Lynn's characters makes his average-looking appearance surprising. He wears mostly earth tones, along with a stained Red Sox cap and frayed jeans.

His work space is strewn with the debris of creation—a jar of murky brush water, a shopping cart stuffed with shopworn ends of wire and fabric, empty sports-drink bottles, and an Apple laptop. A satirical list of instructions, "How to Feel Miserable as an Artist," is pinned above his desk.

A Livonia native, Lynn says that as a kid, he spent most of his time "writing and illustrating books while everyone else was playing kickball." When asked about his work, he mumbles, as if searching for a middle ground between modesty and enthusiasm.

Yet despite a general reluctance to soak up the limelight, Lynn has become a minor campus celebrity. His figures, besides being photographed for the *Michigan Daily*, have appeared at the art school's Slusser Gallery and Work Gallery. In 2004 he nabbed a prestigious All Student Award for one of his exhibitions.

Miniatures run in his family. His grandfather, a whittler, had a workshop populated by legions of wooden figurines. But as an art student, Lynn initially concentrated on printmaking and illustration—until the fall of his junior year, when he enrolled in a class on puppetry and performance taught by professor Nick Tobier.

One of Lynn's favorite puppets wore a permanent grimace beneath hair that resembled a jumble of miniature red scarves. It appeared in the Michigan Daily *as a gay student coming literally out of the closet.*

He spent the following semester at Burren College of Art in western Ireland, where he produced the series of dolls afflicted with birth defects and deformities. Some viewers simply laughed when they saw them. Others were taken aback by the gravity of his subject matter.

Lynn was entranced by the way the dolls tested people's emotions and preconceptions. "The part that really got me was the character development," he says. Back in Ann Arbor, Lynn devoted his senior "integrative project" to making puppets and photographing them to create graphic short stories.

Lynn's current project is a vignette about his grandfather, whose whittled wooden figurines helped fuel his own interest in puppets. At age twelve, his grandfather decided to try his own grandfather's chewing tobacco while waiting in the family truck. According to Lynn, "As soon as he put it in his mouth, his grandpa came out of the bar. He didn't know what to do, so he swallowed it."

In his studio, Lynn surveys the half-formed depictions of his relatives. As with all his figures, he started with the heads. "It's the most expressive part of the body apart from the hands," he explains.

Their peach-colored scalps are still bald, and their eyes lack pupils, lending them a somewhat sinister appearance. "They're going to be a lot different than this," he says, tweaking an exposed wire skeleton, a sort of shish kebab skewer that holds the head in place. "I just started them today."

Lynn uses Sculpey, the same polymer clay that gave *Lord of the Rings* villain Gollum his wormy texture. When heated, the clay faces harden. But getting this far is a task.

Hunched over his workbench, Lynn kneads the clay lumps with his thumbs until they begin to resemble the expressive pencil drawings he keeps in his leather-bound sketchbook. The clothing presents a particular challenge. "I suck at sewing," Lynn says, laughing. "I can't tell you how many times I've sewn my headphones into my puppet."

After his senior review April 16—the last step before graduation—Lynn will face a decision. Down one path lies the University of Connecticut, which offers the country's only master's program in puppet arts. Down the other is a career with one of a handful of stop-motion and puppetry studios, such as Cuppa Coffee, a Toronto studio known for producing MTV's *Celebrity Deathmatch*.

The gold standard is the Jim Henson Company, source of many of the world's most renowned puppets—from the lighthearted Bert and Ernie of *Sesame Street* to the malicious goblins in *Labyrinth*. Lynn's work straddles this border. Humor, as well as darkness, makes his work worthwhile.

"They're inherently funny," he says, surveying a row of puppets along a window ledge. "You look at them, and they're entertaining you. You're not looking for some story or moral or whatever—and if that comes with it, it comes with it."

—Alex Dziadosz

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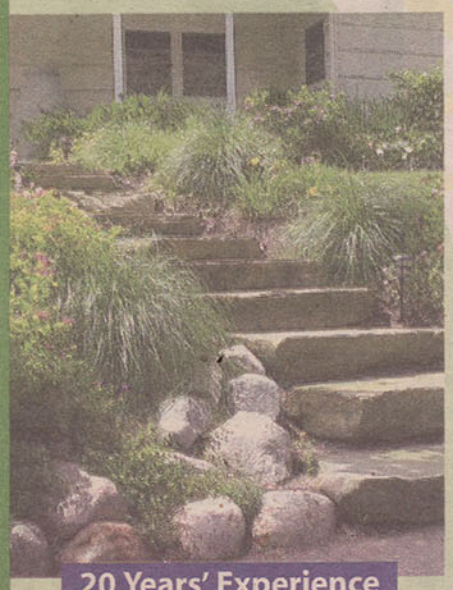

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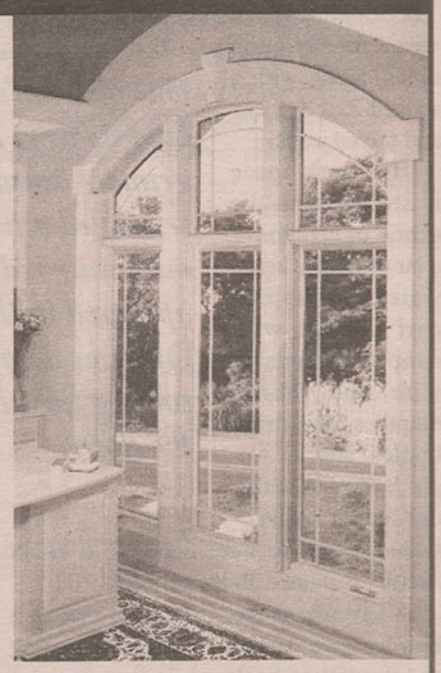

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Modern leprosy

An insider's guide to being laid off

The woman behind me in line at Espresso Royale wore a Pfizer badge. "Do you know your fate?" I asked her, as I ordered a coffee.

"No," she said, "but is this why everyone is looking at me so sadly?" She tucked her badge inside her sweater. "I'm trying not to think about it—just focus on my latte."

I'd been through layoffs myself. "It was easier when a friend told me she had trouble sleeping," I offered. "That it wasn't just me. That I wasn't weird or anything."

"Yeah, two a.m.," she said. "I wake up at two a.m. Everyone agrees that's the time—two a.m. You just wake up and think about it."

In one respect, my situation was the opposite of hers: when I was laid off, hardly anyone knew. My last company died quietly and furtively, announcing layoffs to the media only in intermittent, unsuccessful attempts to bolster the company's sagging share price.

As someone with the dubious distinction of having endured three layoffs—from the ending of a grant, a downsizing, and a corporate bankruptcy—I've learned to prefer the fast kill to the slow torture of uncertainty. At my first software company, the ax fell the day before I was to leave on vacation. After lunch, I headed for the ladies' room. My boss intervened and insisted I go to a meeting. It turned out to be *the* meeting—the one where the human resources lady gives you an express course on postemployment health insurance and directions to the unemployment office.

Afterward, my boss was supposed to chaperone me until I left the building. The problem was I still needed to use the toilet. She wanted to go into the bathroom with me. It had no stall. I wasn't going to let her watch. Mustering my shredded dignity, I said, "I've been doing this by myself since I was two." I got a few minutes of privacy, held a cold, wet paper towel to my face, walked out, and packed my stuff.

Losing a job resembles bereavement or divorce. Each person needs to process it uniquely, taking advantage of his or her gifts, style, values, family needs, resources . . . and an inferno of prayer candles.

After my unemployment benefits ended, a woman whom I had comforted in the past hit me up for a donation for a church activity. The $5 in my wallet was budgeted for milk. "I can't do it," I said. "I was laid off nine months ago." She silently turned and walked away.

For what it's worth—from someone who feels as if she's earned an unwanted Ph.D. in the subject—the following is what I wish someone had told me.

My boss was supposed to chaperone me until I left the building, and wanted to go into the bathroom with me. It had no stall. Mustering my shredded dignity, I said, "I've been doing this by myself since I was two."

Focus on taking care of yourself and your family. Do things unrelated to work or a job search that give you pleasure and a sense of control. I became a better potter. It was fun, made me feel good about myself, and eliminated the need to buy gifts. I learned to make sauces from scratch; my son says my mac-and-cheese made with Kroger ingredients is better than the $12.50 artisanal version served at Zingerman's Roadhouse.

Understand the emotional and physical roller-coaster. Let your doctor know what is happening in your life. Seek counseling if you need it. Investing in your self always pays off in the long term and is more reliable than the local real estate market.

The fear that comes from uncertainty isn't the same as the fear that comes from ignorance. For example, most people freak out at the cost of postemployment health insurance, but many don't realize that as your income drops, it's easier to deduct those audacious premiums and copays. You don't have to own a house to rack up impressive numbers on schedule A.

Be flexible, creative, and radical—though it can be hard to do that on icky, numb days. As an accidental expert, I have reached out to people caught in other retrenchments—in software, the auto industry, M-Care, and Pfizer. I thought I was tough, but after hearing from someone in distress and suggesting that this person seek help, I needed an antidote—and turned on an early round of *American Idol*. Let the tenured professors depress themselves watching *Notes on a Scandal*.

If you do have the luxury of job security and the calming stability it brings, ask those who don't, "How are you doing?" Listen to their answers. Hug them when appropriate, especially if they don't have a sweetie to comfort them. Telephone; send cards; write emails.

And don't make them tell you that money is tight. Find free or cheap ways to socialize together, taking walks or attending free concerts or events. Meet for coffee, breakfast, or lunch rather than dinner; see a matinee or dollar movie. My extended family told me to spend on myself and my child—that seeing me was the best gift I could give them. Wow!

Let laid-off friends know what you like about them and what makes them cool. A Pfizer buddy of mine told me, "You have too much sparkle to waste it working by yourself in a cubicle," and I began to write again. Now it is my turn to reciprocate. She radiates serenity and intelligence, a rare combination that is an asset to any work team.

When you hear job leads and real estate leads, pass them on. Don't complain about your kitchen remodeling or your boss. And don't ask questions that sound like judgments: "Have you found a job yet?" "Have you sold your house yet?" "Have you made up your mind about the buyout yet?"

Assume these people are busier than you are, because they probably are. Job hunting is a black hole of time. They don't need to hear grisly stories of other people's misery or that lazy platitude, "In the end, this may be the best thing that's ever happened to you." Anyone who has followed the Michigan economy knows these are historically bleak times with no end in sight.

Right now this sucks. Have the courage to face it with them.

—Peggy Page

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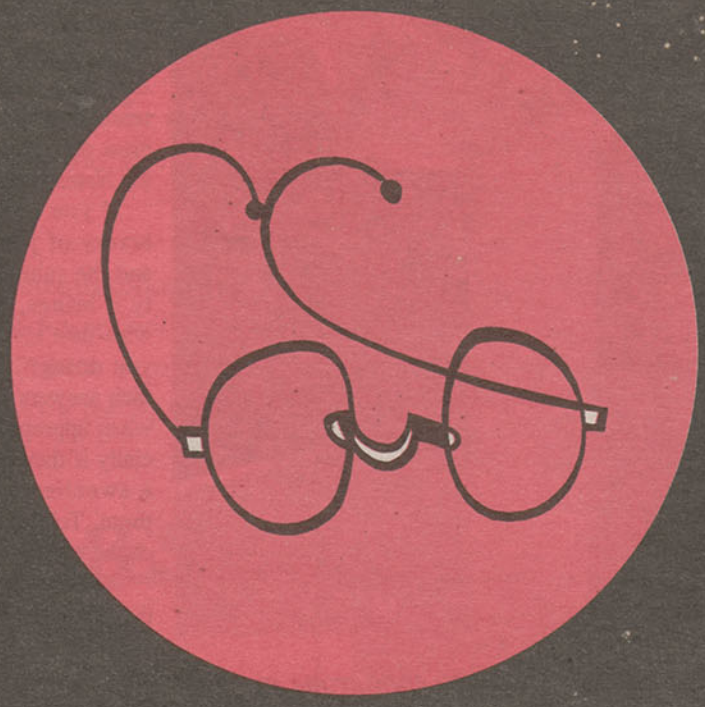

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A barn dance with Bob Seger

The beer at the bottom of Ford Lake

I can't make it to Bob Seger's concert at Joe Louis Arena on March 13. But in the mid-1970s, a band I was in did open for him at a barn dance. It was August 1974. In Washington, Nixon was resigning. In Washtenaw County, we were rejoicing.

I was playing bass with the Martian Entropy Band, and we got a gig to perform in a funky barn on some property overlooking Ford Lake. The lineup was us, the Rabbits, the Rockets, and Bob Seger. Our light show, the Light Opera, also got involved, projecting psychedelia across the dance area from one loft to the other loft, where the stage was set up. The promoter was someone named Whitey, as I recall, and he threw the show together as a bid to get into concert promotion. He printed up some flyers using recycled Fillmore Auditorium poster art, called it a White House production, and got things moving. Five dollars a head, all the beer you could drink, and Bob Seger: what's not to like?

We arrived early on a Saturday afternoon and set up our gear and lighting apparatus. I then retired to an adjoining lawn, where I fell asleep under a tree. I woke up to discover a monkey grooming my arm. He was a pet of the people who owned the barn, and they had leashed him to the tree while they went about their business. The day was off to a rollicking start.

The evening went very well up to a point. The Rabbits, led by Ann Arborite Martin Simmons (who was later to play in my outfit the Gene Pool Band), opened the show, and we followed. Halfway through our set, Seger's manager told us we had to cut our time—Bob had decreed a lineup change so he could get back to Detroit before it got late.

The light show had projections readied for the Rockets, so Bob came out against a background of NASA slides. Our keyboard player, Hugh Hitchcock, was so incensed about having our time cut that he climbed to the lighting booth and convinced the techs to carry on with the slides planned for our set. So there was Seger, wailing away, while in the background slides of spaceships towing blocks of cheese were sailing back and forth. Seger's manager put a stop to that pretty quick, but it was funny while it lasted.

Seger had a small band at the time and played most of his early hits. Then he did a solo set with just him and a piano. He sang "Railroad Days," a song about growing up in Ann Arbor. I talked to him a bit after his set, the conversation revolving around how bad the monitor speakers were.

CLAY PATRICK MCBRIDE

There was Seger, wailing away, while in the background slides of spaceships towing blocks of cheese were sailing back and forth. Seger's manager put a stop to that pretty quick, but it was funny while it lasted.

After Bob, the Rockets took the stage and amped things up several notches. These guys were rock mainstays in the Detroit area in the 1970s and 1980s and were just hitting their stride at this time. By now the barn was packed. A loud, sweaty time was enjoyed by all.

Then the police arrived, and things got even more exciting. It seems that Whitey had neglected to get a permit for dispensing alcohol at the party, and when the police arrived to respond to a noise complaint, it all hit the fan.

I was up in the loft with the light show when someone came running up with a box full of liquor bottles and a request: "Quick! Hide these! The cops are here!" We stashed the bottles in our road cases and looked out the back of the barn to see people madly rolling beer kegs down the hill into Ford Lake.

I was later told that the plan was to send divers down the next day to retrieve these; unfortunately, the story went, Ford Lake turned out to be hundreds of feet deep and those barrels are still down there. (The lake is actually less than forty feet deep, so my guess is that the barrels are buried in layers of silt.)

We managed to escape with our gear intact, and enjoyed the booze in the weeks that followed. I think that was it for Whitey's music business career, but I'll always remember that gig as a high point of my rock 'n' roll days.

—Mike Gould

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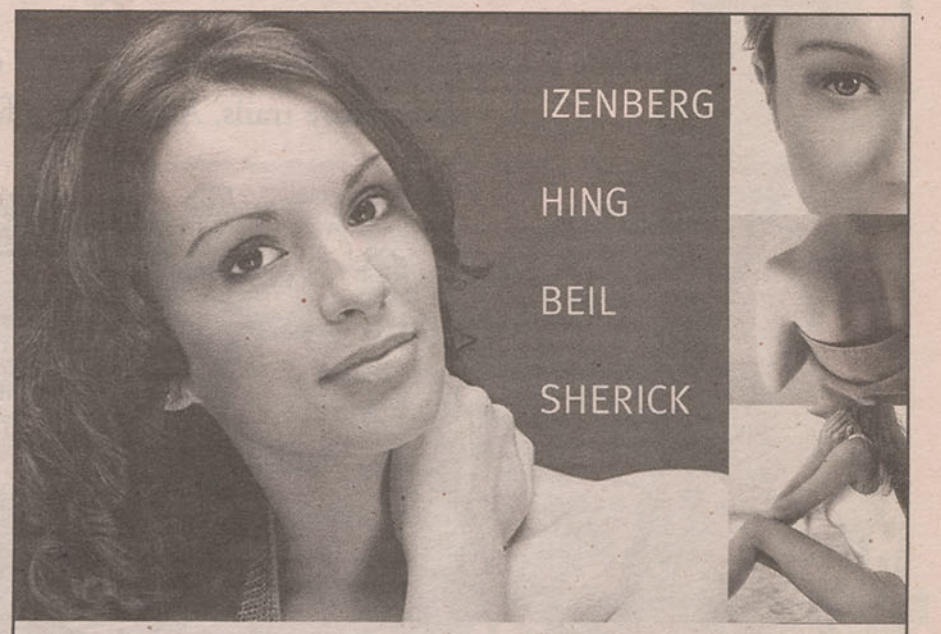

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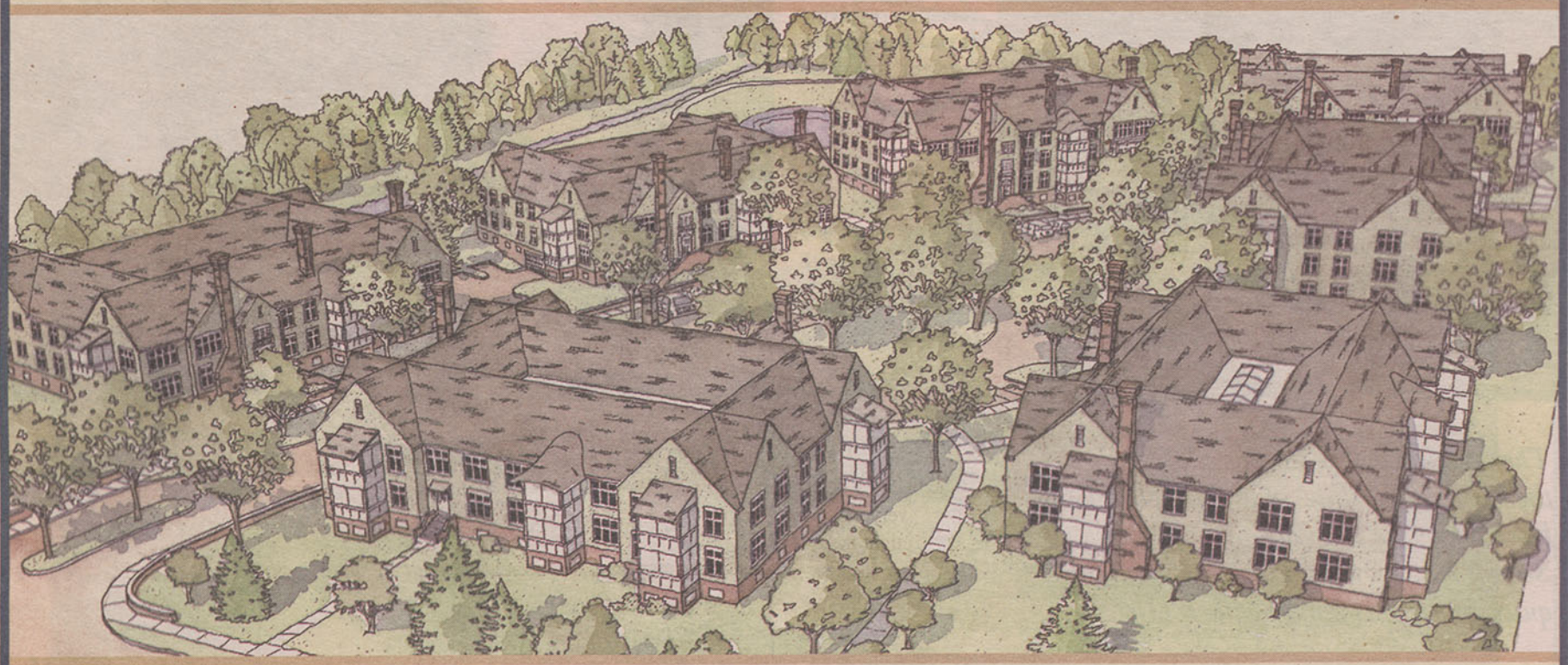

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BLACK MONDAY, AND AFTER

by Anonymous

Everyone at Pfizer in Ann Arbor knew that Jeff Kindler, the company's new CEO, would be making a presentation to stock analysts on January 22, 2007. We assumed he would talk about cutting costs in order to make Wall Street happy and increase the stock price. And we expected some staff reductions, especially after December's disaster with the clinical trials for Pfizer's next big drug, torcetrapib.

We thought that Ann Arbor might lose as many as 10 percent of our people, which was upsetting, of course, but not really all *that* bad. It's a huge place; we'd been through similar cuts before; and unless you actually knew the people affected—and it isn't possible to know everyone at the Ann Arbor site; it's just too big—the cuts weren't all that noticeable. I knew some people whose jobs had been eliminated in the past. I was sorry to see them go, but they found new jobs with other companies and life went on.

This time, as always, the question was whether Pfizer would choose to cut a few people from each department, completely eliminate some of the smaller groups, or, in the most optimistic scenario, just tighten up spending for a few years. It seems incredible in retrospect, but honestly, there really wasn't very much anxiety. People made remarks about getting jobs as greeters at Wal-Mart if they got laid off, but they were just jokes. I don't think too many people were losing sleep over having to work for the Walton family.

We all received emails from Pfizer senior management in New York around Wednesday, January 17—the date varied a bit by department—saying there was to be no business travel on Monday, January 22, or Tuesday, January 23, because Pfizer wanted everyone on site. The anxiety ratcheted up a bit—but since the same message went out to everyone in the company, it didn't go up as much as you might think.

We all knew that Ann Arbor was a very productive site, filled with smart, dedicated, hardworking scientists and technicians. It's true that we had previously been Warner-Lambert/Parke-Davis and so were not a "legacy" Pfizer site, but we thought Pfizer valued us. We were responsible for Lipitor, for god's sake. The scientific acumen and perseverance of people here saved Lyrica. Neurontin was ours. We were very proud of what we'd accomplished here. The idea that this site could be closed did not even occur to most people. I knew one guy who was apprehensive about it, but he was a chronic worrier anyway, and everyone else in our group, including me, thought he was nuts.

On Friday, January 19, we were informed—also via email from Pfizer senior management—that we would all be attending meetings on Monday morning, January 22. Later emails explained that each one of us would receive *another* email giving the time and place of our Monday meeting, but those emails wouldn't go out until Sunday evening, January 21. A few more people began freaking out, but most of us still felt pretty confident, believe it or not.

The Sunday messages notified us to attend department meetings scheduled for 11 a.m. Monday. Almost all of these simultaneous meetings were to be in various rooms and auditoriums around the site, but because there wasn't enough space to hold all the meetings there, one group would have theirs in a local hotel. Those folks were also informed that they would receive box lunches because they'd be away from the cafeteria at lunchtime. (Cue more jokes.)

The Friday messages had explained that Pfizer didn't want anyone to hear bad news about *their* site from another, more fortunate site, or—even worse—from the media. Management wanted all Pfizer employees (always referred to as "colleagues," because of Pfizer's "Respect for People") to hear the news, good or bad, first. So the CEO would presumably announce cost-cutting measures to the stock analysts and media at 1 p.m., but colleagues would be told what was going to happen first, at 11 a.m.

By this time most of us expected to hear bad news, but *about another site*. There were rumors flying around that one or another Pfizer facility might be closing, but the speculation was almost always about one of the smaller sites—not about Ann Arbor.

Everyone, except for a few people out sick or on faraway, too-late-to-cancel vacations, was on site in Ann Arbor on Monday, January 22. A few colleagues, in various states of anxiety, hung around the hallways speculating about the meetings. Others treated the day as almost normal and went on with their work. Most of us weren't all that worried. We'd been through this sort of thing before, and it was never that bad.

In my department word went out Monday morning that we should be at our assigned meeting room by 10:45. I got there around that time, found a seat, and sat there laughing and joking with the colleagues sitting near me. Most of us had noticed two large men standing, arms folded across their chests, in the back corners of the room. People were calling them "the bouncers" and laughing at the absurdity of it. What, did they expect that if they said they were laying a few of us off everyone would rush the stage? It seemed so funny.

Our department head was pacing around near the front of the room. He didn't talk to anyone but just gave a half smile if someone caught his eye. As we talked and joked,

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continued

he walked to the front of the room and stood there quietly.

At exactly 11—I'd noticed him watching the clock—he stepped to the microphone and said, "The Ann Arbor site is closing."

Everyone in the room gasped. It was like being in a movie theater when a scary monster suddenly appears on the screen. But this wasn't a movie. After a moment, saying he wanted to be sure everyone understood, he repeated the sentence: "The Ann Arbor site is closing."

I could hear someone behind me saying "Oh my god oh my god oh my god" over and over and over. A few people near me put their heads down and started to cry quietly. Somewhere someone was sobbing. I traded incredulous looks with my colleagues seated on either side of me. They looked as stunned as I felt.

The department head introduced a corporate higher-up. He was dressed casually, no coat, no tie, shirt unbuttoned at the neck, and I realized I hadn't quite recognized him because I'd never seen him wearing anything but a suit. But not today. Today he was Mr. Casual. Maybe he thought we wouldn't mind getting laid off if he weren't wearing a suit.

People started to ask him questions. I couldn't form a coherent thought, let alone ask a question, but a couple of resilient colleagues recovered from their shock faster than I did. One or two of the questions were quite emotional, delivered in shaking voices. And one colleague asked, not too politely, why we'd all received an email *last week* reminding each of us to finish drafting our 2007 goals. It was, as he pointed out, quite a waste of everyone's time.

The corporate guy who was not wearing a suit managed to reply to everyone without actually saying anything. Then the meeting ended and we staggered out. On the way back to our department we passed colleagues from other departments returning from their meetings. Everyone I passed had the same shell-shocked look.

Pfizer stock fell 7¢ for the week.

For the first few days after the announcement, the people I saw at work all looked ill, as if they were coming down with something or not getting any sleep. I know I wasn't sleeping very well, so I don't imagine I looked any better. But as I write this, people are beginning to deal with the news.

There's a lot of gallows humor. Rude cartoons, some hand drawn or with handwritten additions, are appearing on bulletin boards. Cynicism is the word of the day, every day. Pfizer as a company is not too popular around here—the feeling is they bought us to get Lipitor and then dumped us—but colleagues are really pulling together and supporting each other.

The people here are the nicest I've ever worked with—and I felt that way even before this happened. Now we're all trying to help each other get through this. Unfortunately, when we finally learn what jobs are open at other Pfizer sites, we'll have to start competing against each other to be rehired. I suppose it could get ugly then, but I hope it doesn't, because right now the people here are the main reason I still (sort of) enjoy going to work. I'm really going to miss them.

I know the pharmaceutical industry gets a lot of bad press for being a bunch of greedy bastards, but I can tell you that the people I've worked with here are not like that. Research is very expensive and pharmaceutical companies are certainly focused on the bottom line, but the scientists and technicians and support staff working here were not just looking for the next blockbuster. We truly wanted to discover new medicines to help people. We believed we were making a difference. I was proud to work here.

I'll miss the place—not just the people, the actual buildings. I've worked at this site for so long that it feels like a second home. I'm just realizing that now. I hope someone can figure out a way to use it after we leave. I hate the thought of the site being vacant or, worse yet, leveled. We did good work here.

I've been trying to figure why we were so unprepared for the news. Why were we so confident? Why was this such a surprise? Well, we'd discovered Lipitor, and were still a very productive site. We were doing more work with fewer people than the larger, "legacy" Pfizer site in Groton, Connecticut, which will remain open. And I think a big part of it was that we were lulled into a false sense of security by the arrival of David Canter as our site head.

After the 2000 takeover we were afraid Pfizer would do exactly what it finally did on January 22, 2007—take the Lipitor profits and dump us. Then David Canter arrived, a decent man who repeatedly demonstrated a personal, passionate commitment to the Ann Arbor site, the city of Ann Arbor, and the surrounding communities. He made us feel valued and safe. Unfortunately, the key word turned out to be "personal." As we now know, Pfizer did not share his commitment.

I'm not sure what I'm going to do now. It's too soon to tell whether I'll have the chance to interview for a job at another site. I don't want to leave Ann Arbor, but if I had the opportunity to stay with Pfizer, I'd have to consider it seriously. It would make sense financially. If I truly am laid off, I don't know when it will happen. The layoffs will be in "waves," but I haven't been told which wave I'll be in, or even when the first wave will begin. I just don't have much information yet.

I had never even considered leaving Pfizer or moving from Ann Arbor. My life here was fine—better than fine, really. I had a good job in a lovely community. Now what will I do?

Oh, well, I'm not dead yet. I suppose I'll think of something. ■

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Rise *and* Fall

What went wrong at Pfizer

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

by Ken Garber with Eve Silberman

David Canter's words hit the room like an earthquake. Pfizer's Ann Arbor site director calmly told the employees gathered at the Four Points by Sheraton that the entire facility would be closing. "He then proceeded to talk about Pfizer goals," recalls "Kerry," a staffer who asked that her real name not be used. But by then, no one was paying much attention.

Some people, needing privacy, rushed from the room. Those who stayed saw their own shock reflected in their colleagues' faces. People whispered to each other, "Did I hear that right?" Pfizer had thoughtfully provided box lunches for the attendees—a sandwich, chips, fruit, and a cookie. "People returned to their sites with those box lunches and a look on their face as if they'd seen a ghost or someone had died," recalls Kerry.

In a single stroke, Pfizer's January 22 announcement eliminated 3,100 local jobs—2,100 employees and another 1,000 temps. One researcher's reaction to the news: "Shock. Just shock," he says. "You run through all the emotions: anger, sadness . . . [and] you ask the question, 'Why?' "

That question may never be fully answered. The local labs, over the last decade, have been the most productive in Pfizer's research empire, and the company had poured hundreds of millions of dollars into buildings and land. Even the senior managers delivering the news were at a loss to explain the decision. But they left no doubt that it was final. After a presence here spanning almost five decades, the city's biggest private employer will soon be gone for good.

Though Canter told the *Ann Arbor News* that as many as 70 percent of the local staff will be offered transfers to other Pfizer facilities, the real number is likely to be lower. (Canter declined to be interviewed for this story.) Most researchers plan to apply for jobs elsewhere within Pfizer or are already pursuing other employment leads here and elsewhere. But technicians and support personnel make up roughly half of Pfizer's local staff—and it appears they will simply be out on the street.

As employment falls, the shutdown will ripple out into the community. When people move away, the glut of sales may hurt the local real estate market. Schools and governments will lose millions of dollars in tax revenue, and nonprofits will sorely miss the company's generous support.

How did it come to this? Just one year ago, in a March 2006 regulatory filing, Pfizer stated its intention to retain all six of its drug discovery sites, including Ann Arbor. One month earlier, Pfizer's then-CEO Hank McKinnell told the Detroit Economic Club that he was optimistic about employment *growth* for the company in Michigan, contingent on the company's continued success. And Pfizer, unlike Ford and GM, remains spectacularly profitable. "Pfizer has some of the best profit margins of any organization in the S&P 500," says Tony Butler, a managing director of Lehman Brothers in New York. "Current operating margins are approximately forty percent. And it may actually improve in the near term."

Yet Butler agrees with Pfizer leaders that the company desperately needs to cut costs. The fundamental problem is that in either 2010 or 2011 (depending on the outcome of ongoing litigation) the patent on Lipitor, the best-selling prescription drug in the world, will expire. Lipitor, which lowers "bad" cholesterol, racks up $13 billion a year in worldwide sales—a quarter of the company's total revenue. Most of those sales will immediately disappear once generic versions hit the market.

Lipitor is even more important to Pfizer than its revenue share suggests. Because of savings and efficiencies

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

In an Observer interview last year, site head David Canter spoke optimistically about the labs' future. In January, he announced their closing.

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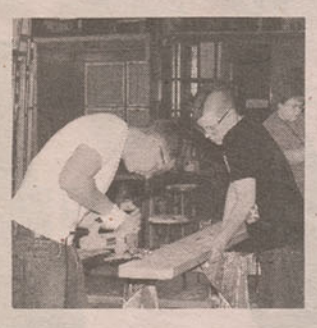

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Rise *and* Fall

in making, marketing, and selling a single product in high volume, the drug accounts for between 40 and 50 percent of the company's overall cash flow, estimates Seamus Fernandez, a pharmaceutical analyst for the Boston investment bank Leerink Swann. And Pfizer has no obvious way to replace that revenue.

The company had been counting on torcetrapib, a drug that raises "good" cholesterol, as its next best-seller. It had even hoped to extend Lipitor's life by combining the two drugs. "That was basically their Lipitor protection strategy," says Bob Zerbe, a former executive at the labs who now runs QuatRx, a local biotech company.

But in December, clinical trial results showed that 60 percent more patients died taking torcetrapib and Lipitor than died taking Lipitor alone. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, the results came as a complete surprise to Pfizer management. They immediately canceled the study and abandoned torcetrapib. Some estimate the disaster will cost the company as much as $100 billion in lost revenue.

A blessing and a curse

Over the last decade, Lipitor has triggered a series of seismic events at the highest corporate levels, culminating in Black Monday. Its historic success in the market has been, by turns, a blessing and a curse to the local labs and, by extension, to the larger community.

To an extent no one could have guessed a decade ago, the future of Ann Arbor itself has been intimately linked to the fate of this one molecule. In a tragic paradox, Lipitor's very success accomplished what four decades of commercial failure couldn't: the demise of big pharma in Ann Arbor.

Lipitor's fallout is doubly ironic, because until its introduction in January 1997, the labs here had produced nothing with any major economic impact. Their owner at the time, Warner-Lambert, didn't have a single prescription drug among the top fifty sellers. (The epilepsy drug Neurontin, introduced in 1991, belatedly achieved blockbuster status in the late 1990s.) Until Lipitor the Ann Arbor labs seemed fated never to deliver a major product.

They were originally opened by Parke-Davis, a Detroit-based drugmaker. At their dedication in 1960, president Harry Loynd said the labs would enable the company "to make greater progress faster" in the search for cures. Parke-Davis, flush with the success of its miracle antibiotic Chloromycetin, employed the prestigious firm of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill to design the first buildings on Plymouth Road.

But Chloromycetin, deceptively promoted by Parke-Davis sales representatives and overprescribed by doctors, suffered a backlash after publicity about a rare but fatal side effect. Sales plunged, and in 1970 Parke-Davis agreed to be bought by New Jersey–based Warner-Lambert.

The merger of the companies' research staffs was contentious, and the 1970s were unproductive years. But in the 1980s Warner-Lambert renewed its commitment to drug discovery. Research funding to the Ann Arbor labs, now officially named "Warner-Lambert/Parke-Davis," tripled over the decade, with employment and buildings here growing accordingly. The drug development program that would beget Lipitor was launched in 1981, and the drug itself was first synthesized in 1985. For the next twelve years, like a slowly ticking time bomb, it would work its way through the development process, narrowly avoiding extinction at the hands of Warner-Lambert executives.

The arrival of research heads Ronnie Cresswell and Pedro Cuatrecasas in the late 1980s ushered in what was, in retrospect, the golden age of pharmaceutical research in Ann Arbor. "The nineties were the good days," says Dick Leopold, a cancer researcher who left the company in 2003. "Science within the company, and the expectations, dramatically improved."

But Warner-Lambert ran into its own problems in the early 1990s, causing research funding to fluctuate and forcing the Ann Arbor labs to make several rounds of painful cuts. The shortage of money dictated a strategy based on the newest science available, as opposed to focusing exclusively on proven drug targets, as larger companies did. The labs here "had a tough time competing," says one former Parke-Davis and Pfizer researcher who asked not to be named. "They didn't have a lot of resources at their command. They tried to be on the cutting edge, and do things where they weren't competing with Pfizer and Merck."

One result was scientific influence disproportionate to the size of the operation. Researchers here published early and often, with papers appearing in prestigious journals like *Science* and *Nature*. Ann Arbor researchers were influential pioneers in neurologic and cardiovascular disease, cancer, and diabetes.

All this was great, says one former researcher—but the pursuit of science for its own sake may have gone a bit too far. "Warner-Lambert was fairly hands off," this person says. "In fact, they were probably too hands off. They probably should have gotten more out of the place, by organizing it more."

Then, in 1997, Warner-Lambert suddenly and unexpectedly struck it rich. Lipitor hit the market that January—and by the end of the year, sales surpassed $1 billion. That was surprising, because Lipitor was not a revolutionary drug, or even particularly novel—four similar "statins" already were on the market. In fact, Lipitor was so late to market that some senior Warner-Lambert executives wanted to abandon the drug. Only passionate lobbying by Cresswell, Cuatrecasas, development team head David Canter, and biochemist Roger Newton kept Lipitor alive.

Lipitor vindicated their support by becoming the best-selling prescription drug in history. The secret of its success is that compared to the earlier statins, Lipitor's seventy-four atoms are arranged in a way that offers a superior combination of great potency and high safety.

Part of this was cunning design, mainly by chemist Bruce Roth, but a lot of it was luck. In the body Lipitor breaks down into other compounds that are just as active as the parent drug, extending its activity and making it more potent. In addition, the drug zeroes in on the liver, where it's needed to stop cholesterol production destined for the bloodstream, and is less active in places where it could interfere with the crucial cell-building role that cholesterol plays elsewhere in the body. So side effects are limited—another lucky break.

Lipitor even benefited, paradoxically, from its late arrival. Merck, for example, had already shown that its statin, Zocor, effectively prevented second heart attacks. So Warner-Lambert didn't have to do its own expensive study—it just piggybacked on Merck's.

The other factor that made Lipitor so successful was Pfizer. Warner-Lambert couldn't afford to market Lipitor on its own, especially since it was launching two other promising drugs at about the same time. So it entered into a marketing deal with Pfizer, a company famous (or notorious) for its aggressive drug marketing. Pfizer would reciprocate by giving Warner-Lambert marketing rights to some of its own drugs, and the companies would split Lipitor's profits.

Lipitor, in a stroke of marketing genius, hit the market at a slightly lower price than Zocor. Hounded by ubiquitous Pfizer sales reps, hordes of doctors made the switch to the more potent yet cheaper new drug, and money poured into Warner-Lambert. Between the beginning of 1997 and the end of 1998, the company's stock price tripled. Hiring resumed in Ann Arbor, and new buildings began to appear. The future seemed infinite.

But Lipitor proved *too* successful. In fact, it became so valuable that it actually led to Warner-Lambert's demise.

In an incredibly foolish move, the company in 1999 announced plans for a "merger of equals" with New Jersey–based drugmaker American Home Products (now Wyeth). The new "American Warner" promised to move both companies up in size so they could better compete with the Mercks of the world—but it never happened. Instead, the announcement put Warner-Lambert's stock in play. Pfizer responded by launching a hostile takeover.

By taking over Warner-Lambert, Pfizer would be able to keep all of Lipitor's profits—without having to surrender mar-

In December, Pfizer managers learned that torcetrapib appeared to have fatal side effects and immediately canceled the new drug. Some estimate the disaster will cost the company as much as $100 billion in lost revenue.

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Rise *and* Fall

keting rights to any of its own drugs. And Pfizer executives also felt their marketing prowess gave them a certain moral claim to the drug. "Pfizer believed with all force that they had been the ones that had driven the opportunity for Lipitor," says analyst Butler.

"It was a stupid move on Warner-Lambert's part, to think you could go in and merge and make 'American Warner' with Pfizer standing by," says one former researcher. "Pfizer was not about to let Lipitor go. I think Pfizer looked at that as a threat to its future, and rightly so." After a brief, futile resistance, Warner-Lambert surrendered, and the Pfizer signs went up on Plymouth Road.

The new owners quickly moved to impose their corporate culture. "The Pfizer acquisition introduced a totally different mentality, with much more structure and process," says Leopold. "It improved some things . . . [but] it changed the effectiveness. The speed and nimbleness, in my view, dramatically decreased."

"Decision making was highly centralized," agrees Wendell Wierenga, a former Parke-Davis vice-president who left soon after the takeover. "That led those who didn't exactly thrive under that culture to look elsewhere." According to Wierenga, of thirty presidents and vice-presidents at Warner-Lambert, only two ultimately stayed with Pfizer.

Culture shock

Before the Pfizer takeover, most drug design and development decisions were made locally, "and you knew most of the people making the decisions," says Peter Boxer, a former Parke-Davis and Pfizer neuroscientist. Under Pfizer, "it got more bureaucratic, and more complicated. . . . I spent a lot more time in meetings, more time justifying everything."

Many scientists grew frustrated at Pfizer's bureaucracy—and at the loss of autonomy. "If you ask for accountability, you have to deliver authority as well," says Leopold. "If you have to ask permission to do things, and check to make sure things are okay, you don't have the authority."

Pfizer did not share Warner-Lambert's willingness to build drug programs around new discoveries and unproven targets. "The emphasis on doing science was much less," says Boxer. "The emphasis was on coming up with projects that had a high probability of getting into the drug development pipeline." That often meant looking for drugs similar to existing drugs rather than completely novel ones. "It's much easier to say, 'We're going to make a relatively subtle improvement on a known type of drug,'" says Boxer, who calls this "a perfectly reasonable strategy." After all, who could argue with the Lipitor model?

The Lipitor experience, in fact, "drove much of the thinking of the industry," says Boxer. But many scientists, especially biologists, felt stifled. "Almost assembly-line science" is how one current researcher describes Pfizer's approach.

"There was a definite shift towards lower-risk projects with near-term payouts," says Leopold. "The downside is the company often ran away from perceived risks that weren't real." Pfizer also delayed publishing research results for years—if its scientists could even find time to write papers. "I had to stop doing publications because I had to focus on finding targets and compounds," laments one current researcher who's worried that his lack of published work will now hurt his job prospects.

Did Pfizer's culture help or hurt productivity here? Locals feel that it hurt, but only time—and drug sales—will tell. "Is a science-driven organization going to be more successful than a market-driven organization?" asks Boxer. "Quite honestly, I don't think anyone in the industry knows the answer to that question."

By inflicting most of the pain in one spot, says a former Pfizer researcher, "you hope you limit the impact to the workplace you're closing—and that the rest will be happy warriors working away without noticing."

Having placed its bet, though, Pfizer backed it heavily. The company poured money into Ann Arbor—not just for new buildings but also for the latest lab equipment and ultra-expensive, high-tech analytical devices. "We got tremendous resources," says one former researcher. "In 2000 it was very much that this was going to be a major research center for Pfizer. There was no talk of shutting it down—this was the heyday of big bucks."

While it was investing in Ann Arbor, however, Pfizer was cutting back elsewhere in Michigan. After acquiring Pharmacia in 2003, the company eliminated about 2,000 research jobs at the former Upjohn facilities in Kalamazoo. Pfizer "made no bones—they wanted the [Pharmacia] drugs, they didn't want the research," says a former local researcher. "[But] they did make a tremendous effort to bring [Pharmacia] people into the company."

The drugs in question were two arthritis drugs, the "Cox-2 inhibitors" Celebrex and Bextra. But the Pharmacia takeover became a disaster for Pfizer the following year when Merck's Cox-2 inhibitor, Vioxx, was linked to heart attacks and stroke and was pulled from the market. Celebrex and Bextra were also implicated, and Bextra, too, was taken off the market. Celebrex is still sold, but heart-risk warnings cut sales by half, from $3.4 billion in 2004 to $1.7 billion in 2005.

Pfizer's bottom line suffered, even as Lipitor sales remained healthy. A series of belt-tightenings, most recently under the

buzzword "adapting to scale," or AtS, cut jobs throughout the company's global operations, including many at the Ann Arbor labs. According to company filings, AtS eliminated about $800 million in annual expenses in 2005. Yet even that didn't placate Wall Street.

During the 1990s Pfizer routinely delivered annual double-digit growth in earnings per share. Analysts had priced the stock on the assumption that that rate of growth would continue indefinitely. When it didn't—when earnings increased by only 6 or 7 percent—they turned on the company. Since 2001, Pfizer's stock has fallen 39 percent.

Last June an unhappy Pfizer board sent McKinnell into early retirement—with a $180 million sendoff package. To replace him, they brought in Jeff Kindler, a lawyer and former McDonald's executive.

The new CEO immediately launched a review of Pfizer's global operations. In November, Kindler announced plans to cut the company's sales force by 20 percent. In a conference call with analysts, he suggested more cuts would be made after the new year. And that was *before* the torcetrapib disaster.

In an emailed answer to the Observer's questions, Pfizer VP Martin Mackay says that torcetrapib "put a fine point on a difficult series of decisions but didn't by itself drive any single decision." It seems certain, however, that the bitter disappointment pushed Pfizer to make the deepest possible cuts—and that in turn may have been what put Ann Arbor on the block.

Torcetrapib was "a huge bet—the largest bet in pharmaceutical history," says analyst Butler. "We thought sales could be in excess of Lipitor sales." Butler had projected that torcetrapib could bring in as much as $15 billion a year, "and that might be an understatement."

Writing off Ann Arbor

Did torcetrapib's failure doom Ann Arbor? Mackay says only that in the course of the review, "it became clear that, in addition to other reductions and smaller-site closures, we would have to eliminate one of our three largest sites—Groton, Connecticut; Sandwich, England; or Ann Arbor. With further analysis, we determined that closing Groton, which is our largest research site by far, would involve a very long and complex transition that would seriously disrupt our R&D. Likewise, we determined that closing Sandwich would be too disruptive because of the considerable difficulty of moving those projects and people overseas. That left us with the least unfortunate of three very unfortunate choices, that being Ann Arbor."

Corporate politics may also have played a role. Pfizer's U.S. research base is in Connecticut, where it employs 4,000 people in Groton and 2,000 more in nearby New London. (Pfizer employees call Groton "the mother ship.") Sandwich is the company's European headquarters, with 2,700 researchers. By comparison, Ann Arbor is merely the largest of many satellite facilities. And, as Zerbe points out, an acquired site is always vulnerable: "It's easier to say good-bye to people who

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Rise *and* Fall

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Why not make cuts across the board instead? "We looked at all options, including shaving costs from all our operations, but it was clear that this exercise could not generate the infrastructure savings [Pfizer sought] nor deliver the simpler, more focused R&D network we need for the future," Mackay says. A former Pfizer researcher offers a more cynical interpretation. By inflicting most of the pain in one spot, "you hope you limit the impact to the workplace you're closing—and that the rest will be happy warriors working away without noticing," this person says.

But Pfizer may come to regret breaking up the local labs. Even with half the staff, Ann Arbor has produced more than Groton in recent years. Lipitor isn't just bigger than every drug Pfizer ever developed—it's bigger than all the drugs Pfizer ever developed *combined*. Add in the Ann Arbor–developed pain medication Lyrica, which Butler calls "a two-and-a-half-billion-dollar opportunity," and it's even less of a contest. Pfizer's pipeline contains many Ann Arbor compounds, particularly for pain, cancer, and heart disease.

Wierenga contends that the local labs produced because scientists here had more freedom and were more invested in their projects. "What makes a competitive advantage, at the end of the day, is culture," he says. "The Parke-Davis culture was more decentralized. There was much more ownership of the projects at the operating level."

Wierenga predicts that closing Ann Arbor will homogenize Pfizer even further. "Pfizer . . . is very inbred in R&D in particular, in Groton and Sandwich," he says. "To me what this [decision] is saying is 'We're getting rid of these [other] cultures.' . . . They're saying, 'We're going to maintain the old Pfizer culture of Groton and Sandwich.'"

Yet Pfizer's research culture has not delivered a blockbuster since Viagra, in 1998—and Viagra produces more jokes than sales (a mere $1.6 billion last year). "They have been sinking seven billion dollars a year into research, and it hasn't delivered," says a former local Pfizer researcher. Fernandez calls the Pfizer drug pipeline "a 'show me' story. . . . We don't have a good sense whether the pipeline has the potential to replace the Lipitor revenues, much less grow larger."

Paradoxically, torcetrapib—an extremely high-risk, scientifically pioneering compound—was developed in Groton, while Lipitor, a tweaking of an already successful formula, is an Ann Arbor product. Maybe their contrasting fates were a result of unpredictable responses in the human body and didn't really reflect any inherent superiority in the local culture. And it's impossible to know whether "American Warner" would be doing any better than Pfizer if the takeover hadn't happened.

What's certain is that Pfizer will pay a price for its decision to shut the local labs. "There will be disruption," Wierenga says. "My rule of thumb is if you move a program from one geographic space to another, you're losing the equivalent of a couple of years."

Pfizer seems determined to keep the cream of its Ann Arbor research force. It's offering a signing bonus equal to four months' pay for those who move to another Pfizer facility; the company will also cover losses up to $100,000 on home sales in the glutted market. "It's an incredibly generous package," says one researcher. Yet some workers, wary of further Pfizer cutbacks a few years from now, when Lipitor goes off patent, are looking for more security elsewhere. "There's other choices people will have," says Wierenga. "There will be, frankly, a bad taste in people's mouths."

Even the angriest employees are reluctant to criticize Pfizer publicly, but some have been venting anonymously on the "Biofind Rumor Mill," a website for the biotech industry. "Sorry pfolks," posted one especially bitter soul, "but the PF**king irony of Pfe being lead [sic] by a lawyer from McDonald's—the way pfe's

MARK BIALEK

Scientist Jayne Zimmerman attends a prayer service for Pfizer families at First Presbyterian Church. "We were transferred from Pfizer [in Skokie] in 2003," she says, "and thought Ann Arbor was our settled place."

been going for the past few years it's such a logical step! . . . Lucky you Novartis being led by an passionate MD or Sanofi-Aventis being led by an excellent deal maker. Who do us yanks get . . . Ronald McDonald."

The diaspora begins

For those who do decide to look elsewhere, "the job market is tremendous," says a spokeswoman from Advanced Clinical Services, a headhunting firm for the biotech industry. "Individuals coming out of Pfizer wouldn't have a hard time if there weren't any limitations where to live. There are multiple opportunities on the West Coast, the Northeast, Southeast."

"It's obviously a talented pool of research and development [personnel]," says Fred Malley, a spokesman for New Jersey–based Schering-Plough. According to one researcher, colleagues are constantly sharing information on job openings via email at work. "People are exploring all their options," this person says.

Of course, everyone from governor Jennifer Granholm down to the owners of the Evergreen Restaurant (a favorite haunt of Pfizer employees) wants to keep the generally well-paid Pfizer employees in the Ann Arbor area, their dollars rolling through the local economy. Local movers and shakers quickly organized to deal with the Pfizer fallout. Stephen Rapundalo, a city council representative and former Pfizer scientist who now heads up MichBio, says the promotional group already has received about 100 resumes from Pfizer people.

Pfizer's top local scientists will be juggling multiple offers, and even junior researchers will probably find jobs somewhere. "The people who won't do okay are the people who have spousal issues, so they can't move. Or family issues," says a former researcher. Middle managers also may be out of a job, since a recent Kindler initiative will eliminate several levels of management throughout the company—"delayering," in Pfizer-speak. "If you're a director of something here, it's going to be tough," the researcher says.

The people who will be hardest hit, though, are the support staff—cleaning and maintenance crews, security guards, cafeteria workers, "admins," and animal care people. While Pfizer is offering a generous severance package—thirteen weeks' pay plus three weeks for every year of service—these workers are unlikely to find new jobs with pay approaching what they receive at Pfizer. Boxer is especially worried about what will happen to Pfizer's accomplished technicians. "Their skill set, while highly valuable, is not something that's necessarily going to be valued highly by another company," he says.

In February, First Presbyterian Church had a special prayer night, in part out of concern for its dozen or so member families and individuals who work at Pfizer. "From talking with people in the hallway and on the phone from our church who work for Pfizer, it is so painful, there are tears, and they are very much in the midst of grief," emails minister Melissa Anne Rogers.

Jayne Zimmerman was among those who accepted the church's invitation. "We're not members" of the church, Zimmerman says, but she came anyway "for the chance to be centered and get in touch with my own feelings in a quiet place like this. We were transferred from Pfizer [in Skokie] in 2003 and thought Ann Arbor was our settled place."

Lipitor's destructive legacy

The worst suffering will be felt by those who invested their lives in Pfizer. But the community's loss—in economic activity, tax revenue, charitable support, and human capital—will also be enormous. Pfizer pays $4.4 million a year in city taxes, and the company and its employees donate an estimated $4.5 million to local charities.

Despite the civic and governmental efforts to keep them, relatively few talented Pfizer scientists are likely to stay in Ann Arbor. "I love my house. I love Ann Arbor. My heart is trying to say, 'Stay here,'" says one employee, who says he appreciates the governor's support. "But it takes a lot of money to do a start-up," he goes on. "I'm just not in a position" to wait for new companies to start hiring.

As for the Pfizer campus, its reuse anytime soon is problematic. "I suppose the best possible world would be for a major pharmaceutical company, a Japanese or a Swiss company, to buy it and establish a major research site," says Zerbe. But, he points out, almost all drug companies worldwide are currently in contraction mode. And leasing or selling parts of the 2 million square feet of office and laboratory space will be complicated, since the complex is an "integrated" facility. "The buildings aren't self sufficient," says Boxer. While the three office buildings could be leased as such, the laboratory buildings probably don't contain enough office space to house freestanding companies. And the two newest buildings, for toxicology (largely animal experimentation) and pharmaceutical sciences (a pilot drug manufacturing plant), are so specialized that they may never find users.

Meanwhile, more than 3,000 workers face life-changing decisions. Pfizer is already posting jobs at other facilities, and Ann Arbor staffers can apply for them right up until they're laid off. Pfizer spokesman Rick Chambers says those "separations" will begin the middle of this year.

As shock gives way to numbness, what most astounds is the speed of the collapse. When Lipitor was launched ten years ago, it seemed to have secured the labs' prosperity for many decades to come. Instead, the drug caused their destruction—first as an irresistible lure for Pfizer to take over Warner-Lambert, and then, with patent expiration looming, by exposing a bloated and dysfunctional company addicted to the drug's outrageous profits. And now, through no fault of their own, thousands of "colleagues" must soon begin to disperse.

"The irony is, of course, the success of the site was ultimately its demise," says Zerbe. Ann Arbor will be paying the price for that success for years to come. ■

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REBEL WITH A CAUSE

BY MICHAEL BETZOLD

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When conservatives condemned the Ann Arbor Film Festival last year, they didn't reckon on CHRISTEN McARDLE. She's turned their attempt at "censorship" into a national outrage.

Ann Arbor Film Festival director Christen McArdle (above left) celebrates her freedom from state funding guidelines with controversial films like *Hold Me While I'm Naked* and *The Bed*. Funding for the March 24 sidebar showing comes from a $10,000 grant from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences—the folks who give out the Oscars.

You couldn't have scripted it any better. First, take a respected but aging arts event in a midlife identity crisis. From stage right, bring on a conservative think tank and some not-too-bright state legislators. Have them bluster about how the state shouldn't fund indecency and threaten to cut off grant money. Then cue screams of "Censorship!"

That's just what fell into the lap of Christen McArdle, the new director of the Ann Arbor Film Festival. Last March the Mackinac Center for Public Policy attacked public funding for the arts—and used films screened at the festival as examples of what some taxpayers might consider a "cesspool of silliness." In no time, legislators were trying to cut off funding—and the forty-something festival had found a new lease on life.

What could play better in Ann Arbor than standing up to a bunch of prudish right-wing troglodytes? Asked how local people have responded to the fight, McArdle says, "The word I hear a lot is *un-American*. People are supportive. People are angry."

McArdle worked for actor John Cusack's film production company before taking over the festival in late 2005, and she's made its self-proclaimed fight against censorship into a minor cause in Hollywood. When she wanted items for a fund-raising auction last fall, she had no trouble getting the likes of George Clooney, Bill Maher, Ken Burns, and Richard Linklater to send along DVDs, posters, and mementos.

The saga of the festival's principled stand against antiporn crusaders has even struck a chord internationally. "It has raised the profile of the festival," says McArdle, a savvy twenty-nine-year-old with sharp artistic and political instincts. "We get emails from all over the place," she says. "A bunch of German filmmakers wrote who had heard about it."

McArdle's hoping the fracas will reawaken a spark of local pride after years in which the festival has slid from something special to something taken for granted by many townies. "The Ann Arbor Film Festival has a bigger reputation outside Michigan than in Michigan," she claims—at least among experimental film buffs. Now, by raising the banner of artistic freedom, the festival is overtly political again—as it was when it began in the 1960s.

McArdle is a midwesterner who became a cosmopolitan artist and then a Hollywood insider. Born and raised in Cleveland, she played viola with the Cleveland Youth Symphony and then moved into experimental, multicultural electronic music. She spent three years at John Cusack's New Crime Productions, learning the ropes of the movie business. Her varied roots have produced a disarming energy, an unpretentious folksiness, and a casually fierce self-confidence. Proudly unconventional and totally committed to artistic integrity, she's the perfect champion for the issue she's put front and center for the festival.

When she first arrived in town, McArdle was baffled by many Ann Arborites' indifference to the festival. Her L.A. friends thought she was daft to move to the Midwest—and their worst stereotypes were soon confirmed. Three days before last year's event, McArdle was notified about the Mackinac Center essay. It mentioned a slew of films that the writer implied were prurient.

A couple of state lawmakers picked up on the report and started squawking that some of the film festival's offerings were "pornographic." They obviously hadn't done their homework, because as McArdle points out, some of the examples they gave were absurd: a short called *Boobie Girl*, a sweet and even sentimental cartoon about being careful about what you wish for, if you're a young girl pining for puberty; and *Chests*, two minutes of bare-chested men in blue jeans bumping their sternums together in a decidedly non-homoerotic way.

Nevertheless, Bloomfield Hills Republican Shelley Taub drafted an amendment to a bill before the house appropriations subcommittee to exclude the festival from state funding for two years. Another amendment was introduced to tighten arts funding guidelines, making it tougher to show controversial work. Hearings were held.

Prompted by the legislative brouhaha, the state-funded Michigan Council for the Arts and Civic Affairs (MCACA) held back on the final installment of its annual grant to the film festival, pending an investigation into whether the group had violated its funding contract.

For the last ten years, the festival's MCACA grant has come with some peculiar strings attached. The arts council's guidelines specify that its grants may not be used "for projects or activities that include displays of human waste on religious symbols, displays of sex acts, and depictions of flag desecration."

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REBEL WITH A CAUSE

continued

The guidelines were adopted in the wake of a controversy that embroiled the National Endowment for the Arts a decade ago, when congressional Republicans savaged the agency for funding sacrilegious and overtly sexual artwork. But most Michigan arts groups, including the film festival, have simply ignored them. Two of the three guidelines are irrelevant to most artistic endeavors, and the third, about sex acts, is so sweeping that compliance seems almost impossible.

Pointing out that few other states tie artists' hands in this way, McArdle says the festival board decided it was time to take a stand: "We looked at this, and we said, 'This is just *wrong*.' "

So instead of trying to placate the legislature, she put out a breathless press release headlined "Ann Arbor Film Festival Targeted as Part of Larger Antiarts Agenda." The festival's website elaborates: "The Ann Arbor Film Festival recently had its state funding cut due to screening films that some state legislators and special interest groups are deeming too controversial."

That's all true—but it left out some important details. In fact, state funds were never permanently cut, and what happened was not exactly censorship. Taub's amendment was killed in a joint house-senate conference; among other problems, singling out a specific organization seemed clearly unconstitutional. It never even came to a vote. And the festival never sought to reclaim the rest of last year's MCACA grant.

The film festival probably did violate MCACA's guidelines in the past with some form of "displays of sex acts"—but that's not why it no longer receives state funding. Instead, the festival's leaders decided on their own not to reapply for the grant. "It was our obligation to the international film community," McArdle explains passionately. "Ninety-five percent of our submissions come from outside Michigan. We felt like if we accepted the money [under MCACA's guidelines] we would be compromising our artistic integrity."

McArdle admits that she doesn't know whether the festival would have been funded by the state if it had reapplied for this year. But, she says, "stomping your feet about the guidelines and still trying to get state funding seemed messy. This way, the message is very clear now."

It certainly is. By the end of the summer, the conflict had achieved a sort of mythic status as a fight for artistic freedom—and had reenergized the festival.

The landscape of film exhibition has changed dramatically since 1963, when the festival was launched by U-M art prof George Manupelli. Focused on experimental films in the cheap sixteen-millimeter format, it quickly attracted entrants and attention from across the country. But in recent decades, as video displaced film as the experimental medium of choice, the festival found itself in a quandary.

When video cameras and editing became cheaper than film, many younger artists began working mainly or exclusively in that medium. But longtime director Vicki Honeyman, who almost singlehandedly kept the festival afloat for many lean years, was aesthetically committed to sixteen-millimeter and resisted the inclusion of video in the competition. Throughout the 1990s and into this century, the festival continued to show films that were brave politically and artistically—but its purist policies excluded more and more young artists.

Finally, in 2004, the festival started including digital works in competition. New executive director Chrisstina Hamilton was quickly submerged in submissions—all of which had to be reviewed by the festival's overstressed volunteer screeners. (This year the festival received about 2,000 submissions, all but a handful of them on video.)

When Hamilton left the festival in 2005, money, staffing, and volunteer energy were all at an ebb. Board president Jay Nelson even talked about surrendering the festival's independence and bringing it back under the aegis of the U-M. But McArdle brought fresh energy. She added eight members to the board of directors, many of them young and artsy. And she seized on the funding crisis to invigorate the festival's purpose.

Financially, it's not yet clear whether the decision to refuse state funding will be a shot in the arm or in the foot. It was surely a gamble. Nelson says the festival has long been living "hand to mouth," and it's now trying to replace an estimated $16,000 in forgone state funding—8 percent of its $190,000 annual budget.

Using her Hollywood connections, McArdle secured a $10,000 grant from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences—the folks who give out Oscars—to be used to raise awareness of arts funding issues. The grant will underwrite a panel discussion and other programming about censorship and artistic freedom at the forty-fifth film festival, which runs March 20–25.

Since that money may not be used toward administrative costs, the board has also been reaching out to local allies to drum up support. Last summer radio station WQKL hosted a one-day fund-raiser, broadcast on sister station WLBY, an Air America affiliate. There was a bike-in movie outside the Frieze Building, and a fund-raiser was held at the Ann Arbor School of Yoga. In November a fund-raiser at the Michigan Theater premiered the film *This Film Is Not Yet Rated,* a documentary about the motion picture industry's secretive ratings board, and featured remarks by the makers of *Boobie Girl* and *Chests* as well as a silent auction of celebrity items.

GRIFFIN LINDSAY

Giving up the state grant cost the festival an estimated $16,000, but McArdle wanted to send a clear message. "Stomping your feet about the guidelines and still trying to get state funding seemed messy," she says.

McArdle says the festival has not yet closed its budget gap. Her chin resting on top of a bottle of juice, she admits that "the [state] funding issue took me away from normal fund-raising."

Eventually McArdle wants to double the festival's budget, and she is eager to expand its reach. "My interest is not in changing the festival's programming," she says. "The majority of what we still show is avant garde, and those artists need a home. But this festival has outrageous room for growth." She mentions the idea of supplementing the traditional showings at the Michigan Theater with more accessible or commercially oriented films in the State Theater. And she says the festival can't survive if it continues to rely so heavily on volunteers.

"I'd like to see the community take more ownership of this festival," she says. "It would be a good way for Ann Arbor to get the message out about how smart and innovative we are."

The festival's reputation and audacity remain its main strengths. "It's a seminal film festival for alternative media," says M. M. Serra, executive director of the Film-Makers' Cooperative in New York, a longtime distributor of experimental work. "That longevity is important. It's built a reputation as being a quality film festival that covers multiple aesthetics and genres."

While the Sundance Film Festival has taken the lead in showcasing independent narrative films, and other festivals are awash in animation, Ann Arbor remains one of the leaders in documentaries, and especially in abstract experimental films—the kind that are generally the least commercially viable. Depending on your viewpoint, these offerings may be wildly imaginative or the equivalent of watching paint dry.

They can also be highly controversial. If the festival's critics hoped to scare it into prudish silence, they'll be badly disappointed. "We have the reputation of being one of the most fearless festivals in the world," says McArdle. "You can see work here that you can't see anywhere else because they're afraid to show it. We're happy to show controversial work. This festival was created to see such films."

McArdle is wasting no time celebrating the festival's liberation from MCACA's guidelines. This year it's showing all the films that legislators targeted. And it's presenting, in conjunction with the San Francisco Cinematheque, a special night of films "that explore the body as a place."

Using the $10,000 Academy grant, the Saturday night sidebar lineup is a provocative cruise through decades of defiance of censorship. It includes 1960s fare like George Kuchar's *Hold Me While I'm Naked,* featuring Donna Kerness as an actress who walks off the set of an X-rated film; *The Bed,* James Broughton's film of an empty bed in a meadow that attracts images of writhing bodies in polymorphous couplings; and Bruce Conner's *Cosmic Ray,* in which a stripper dances through a global war zone. There's gay sex, including Jerry Tartaglia's *Ecce Homo,* which intersplices images from gay porno flicks with a classic Jean Genet love story.

Scott Stark's *Noema* is described by the New York Film Festival as "A *Decameron*-like tournament of missing links and coitus interruptus." Todd Lincoln's *Honey Pot* devolves from a Discovery TV–style documentary on how honey is made to a raunchy look at how honey can be used. *Spiders in Love,* directed by Martha Colburn, is billed as "an arachnogasmic musical."

McArdle has obviously decided to fight fire with fire. "We're not in the business of showing porn," she says. "But we've never shied away from showing thought-provoking material just because it may include something sexually explicit." ■

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Business is booming at the U-M dental school's clinics, a refuge for the uninsured.

by Karen Heinze

Andrea Wiggins (left) is one of 84,000 patients without dental insurance who have their teeth seen to by the students at the U-M School of Dentistry each year—up from 66,000 five years ago.

David Hegadorn, fifty-seven, stayed away from dentists for more than twenty years. While employed as a printing press operator at the *Detroit News,* he had dental insurance and sent his three daughters, but never went himself. "I didn't like going as a kid," he says, and after he grew up, it was "something I wasn't concerned with." He lost his dental insurance when he left the *News,* and since then he's been unemployed, has worked odd jobs, and was even homeless for a while. Ultimately the years of neglect took their toll: many of his teeth became loose, painful, and discolored. Eating favorite foods such as sweet corn or steak was out of the question. A friend removed one painful, loose front tooth with pliers.

At twenty-eight, Andrea Wiggins has nearly perfect teeth with no fillings. But she works part time and has no dental insurance. When a residual baby tooth began crumbling a couple years ago, she sought an economical way to get dental treatment.

Luckily for Hegadorn and Wiggins, they live close to the U-M, which has one of two dental schools in the state (the other is at the University of Detroit Mercy). Where there are dental schools, there are student dentists who need experience. Patients who are willing to be practiced on can receive comprehensive care for reduced fees.

According to Stephen Stefanac, associate dean for patient services, fees at the U-M School of Dentistry's comprehensive care clinic and emergency clinic average about 60 percent of what private dentists charge. Graduate students who work in the schools' specialty clinics, such as pediatric dentistry, orthodontics, periodontics, and endodontics, provide service at about 75 to 80 percent of normal costs. (Many members of the school faculty also see patients one day or half a day a week, at fees comparable to those at a private practice.)

The clinics mostly serve people without dental insurance, including students, the elderly, and the unemployed. "We are not trying to compete with private practice dentists, but rather serve a segment that does not have access to care or can't afford care due to economic circumstance," says Jerry Mastey, an official at the school.

There's a trade-off for lower fees: each visit takes much longer than at a regular dentist. "It's important that we maintain the highest quality of care, regardless of who is delivering it," says Peter Polverini, dean of the dental school. So a supervisory faculty member inspects each student's work after every step of a procedure. Appointments run two and a half hours, and Wiggins estimates that "sixty percent of that time is spent waiting to get checked and twenty percent is spent on paperwork." She credits the students with being "attentive, thorough, and concerned with getting it right" but adds that "sometimes it's more than I have patience for."

Luckily, Wiggins, a graduate student in the U-M School of Information, says she likes "participating in the learning process and the experience of watching folks learn. It's like an experiment in which I am the participant."

Wiggins heard about the clinic from friends, and her first student dentist did a temporary reconstruction of her crumbling baby tooth. But replacing her baby tooth with an adult-size implant requires moving teeth to create space. She waited four months before getting a referral for the oral surgery that is required before she can get braces, and faces more long waits at every step of the process.

Hegadorn came to the clinic in July 2005, referred by the Community Dental Center, a nonprofit agency jointly run by the City of Ann Arbor and the U-M School of Dentistry. Though he had eleven rotten teeth pulled in oral surgery in one visit, he proclaims it "a good experience." His dentist filled five remaining bottom teeth and used them as anchors for a partial denture. On the top he has a full denture, removed only for periodic cleaning.

The student dentists' skills expand as they move through the curriculum. In the first year they do cleanings; in year two they move to patient treatment plans, X rays, and fillings; in the third year to evaluation of new patients and comprehensive treatments, including crowns; and in the fourth year to complex procedures such as implants.

What the dental school offers—low-cost, well-supervised care—is in increasing demand. It serves 84,000 patients a year in its campus clinics, compared to 66,000 five years ago. The school doesn't collect geographic statistics, but people seem to be coming from farther away. "It's happening with a number of dental schools, not just this one," says Stefanac. "Patients are traveling greater distances. In our emergency clinic, individuals travel a distance for relief of pain and swelling." In the comprehensive care clinic, he adds, "we receive patients from all counties in the Lower Peninsula."

The dental school's geographic range is further broadened by its community outreach program: all fourth-year students are sent out on four weeklong rotations in community clinics across the state, including urban clinics in Ypsilanti, Flint, and Saginaw; small-town clinics in Baldwin and Oscoda; a clinic for migrant workers in Traverse City; and a clinic for children with disabilities in the Upper Peninsula.

"It's an opportunity for our students to really get to see a population of patients that perhaps they would normally not see, cloistered in a private practice," says

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Polverini. There are more private-pay and Medicaid patients in the outreach clinics, and some see more children.

The outreach experience is usually positive, Polverini says. In the clinics, students meet "people who are so grateful, so thankful, for getting any kind of care," he says. About 5 percent of U-M dental school grads go on to practice in community clinics after graduation. Federal programs forgive around $50,000 in student loans for new grads who'll put in two years of work in a community clinic—a big help, given that the tuition, fees, and instrument costs to get a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree at the U-M total $109,792 for a Michigan resident and $169,400 for a nonresident.

The number of dentists in America is falling, mainly because Americans are taking better care of their own teeth. By promoting preventive care through fluoridation, flossing, and sealants, dentistry "has done much to put ourselves out of business," says Stefanac.

At the same time, though, dentists are expanding their view of their role. "One of the things we try and really make clear to our students," says Polverini, is that "we are treating patients, not treating teeth or heads. That patient's systemic health often will influence oral health and vice versa."

Years ago, medical researchers demonstrated a link between periodontal disease and increased risk of blood clots and heart attacks: the same common strain of bacteria found in dental plaque can cause clots when released into the bloodstream. Calcium deposits in the teeth and jawbone, observed on X rays, are possible signs of calcified plaque within the carotid arteries, a symptom of cardiovascular disease.

The dentist may be in an ideal position to spot trouble, especially because a lot of insured patients see their dentists more often than they see their physicians, say Polverini and Stefanac. But disease, medical treatments, and drug therapy can make the dentist's job more difficult. "We do know, for example, a patient who is diabetic has increased opportunities for complications in oral health—abscesses, things like that," Polverini says. In another example, anxiety about going to the dentist could trigger an acute attack in a person with asthma. Asthmatics are also more prone to cavities and gum disease (gingivitis).

Patients in their sixties need the most care, as measured by treatments per patient provided in the comprehensive care clinic. These older patients may have lost teeth, need restorations, or be paying for negligence earlier in life, much as Hegadorn did. Many of them also have a harder time paying private dentists. Medicare doesn't cover routine dental care, and most retirees lose their dental insurance—fewer than 20 percent of people

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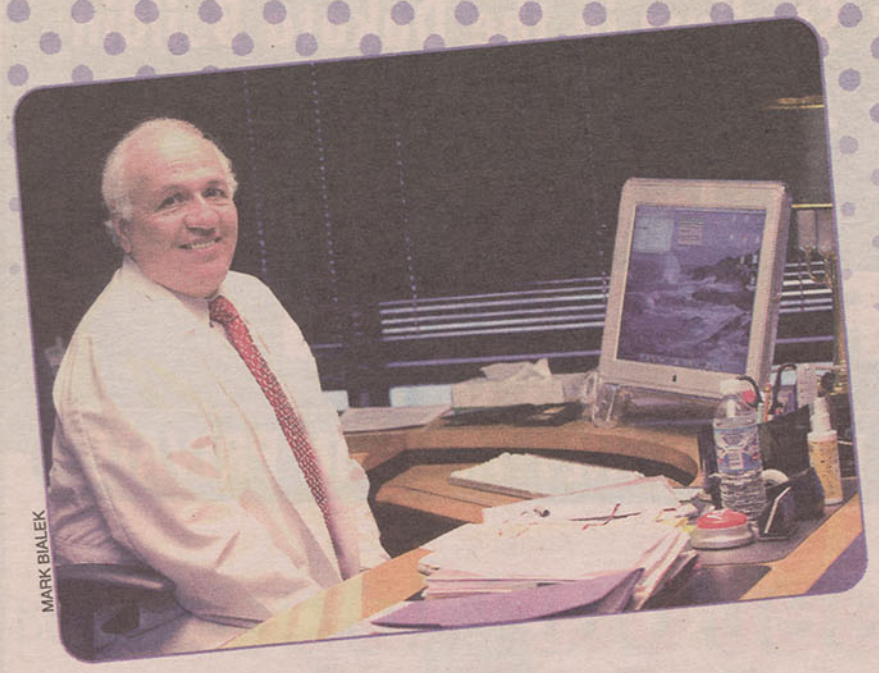

MARK BIALEK

"We have a moral obligation . . . to provide care for those in need," says U-M dental school dean Peter Polverini.

age sixty-five and older have any kind of dental coverage. Yet older patients want to maintain a high quality of life, Polverini says, and "set high expectations—as they should."

All this presents special challenges for students. "Particularly as our patients get older, they come in here with complex diseases," says Polverini. "They have a bagful of medications and they walk into the clinic. Our students have to be prepared in how to deal with these complex patients, with their complex pharmacology."

For any patient on medication, the dentist must consider the potential hazards of drug interactions before administering antibiotics or anesthetics. To address these issues, the dental school has revised and updated its curriculum, adding more courses in pharmacology and more class time devoted to the management of patients with health problems.

Admission to the U-M School of Dentistry is increasingly competitive. Only one of every twenty-two applicants is admitted to each class of 100 to 105 students, while sixty to seventy are admitted annually to graduate programs.

Despite declining demand for fillings and other routine care, dentistry remains an attractive career—in part because dentists enjoy more independence than medical doctors. The proportion of self-employed M.D.'s has dropped dramatically in the past decade, mostly because of the soaring cost of insurance premiums—but most dentists are still sole practitioners.

Future dental students will not have to worry about running out of patients to practice on: the dental school expects demand for the clinics' services will continue to grow. "Fifty million people in this country have absolutely no health care whatsoever, and it is inconceivable to me that this is going to get better anytime soon," Polverini says. "This is a safety net here. We believe very seriously we have a moral obligation as health care givers to provide care for those in need."

The school also is reaching out to the U-M student population with M-Dent, a self-run prepaid dental plan with annual premiums of less than $300 that emphasizes preventive dental care. And the school is considering a marketing campaign. Yet it's hard to fathom how it will cope with increased demand. Currently wait times for a new patient appointment run six to eight weeks. With "a finite number of dental students and time and chairs, we are always delivering pretty much a finite amount of care," Stefanac admits.

"Fifty million people in this country have absolutely no health care whatsoever, and it is inconceivable to me that this is going to get better anytime soon," says dean Peter Polverini.

Polverini says he wants to find ways to cut down on the wait time. The school is considering expanding faculty clinical practice, increasing student exposure to patients, and getting more students working in community clinics.

Three years after first coming to the clinic, Andrea Wiggins is running out of patience. "It's frustrating to realize how long it's taken to treat this one stupid tooth," she says. But on Valentine's Day, she finally got the oral surgery she needed, a big step on the road to a permanent fix.

As for David Hegadorn, he's already back to eating the corn on the cob he loves. Though he now has dental insurance through his Social Security disability benefits, he says he will still come to the U-M clinic. "I look forward to coming in," says the man who for decades hated the thought of going to a dentist. "I would have come here twenty years ago, if I'd known about it." ■

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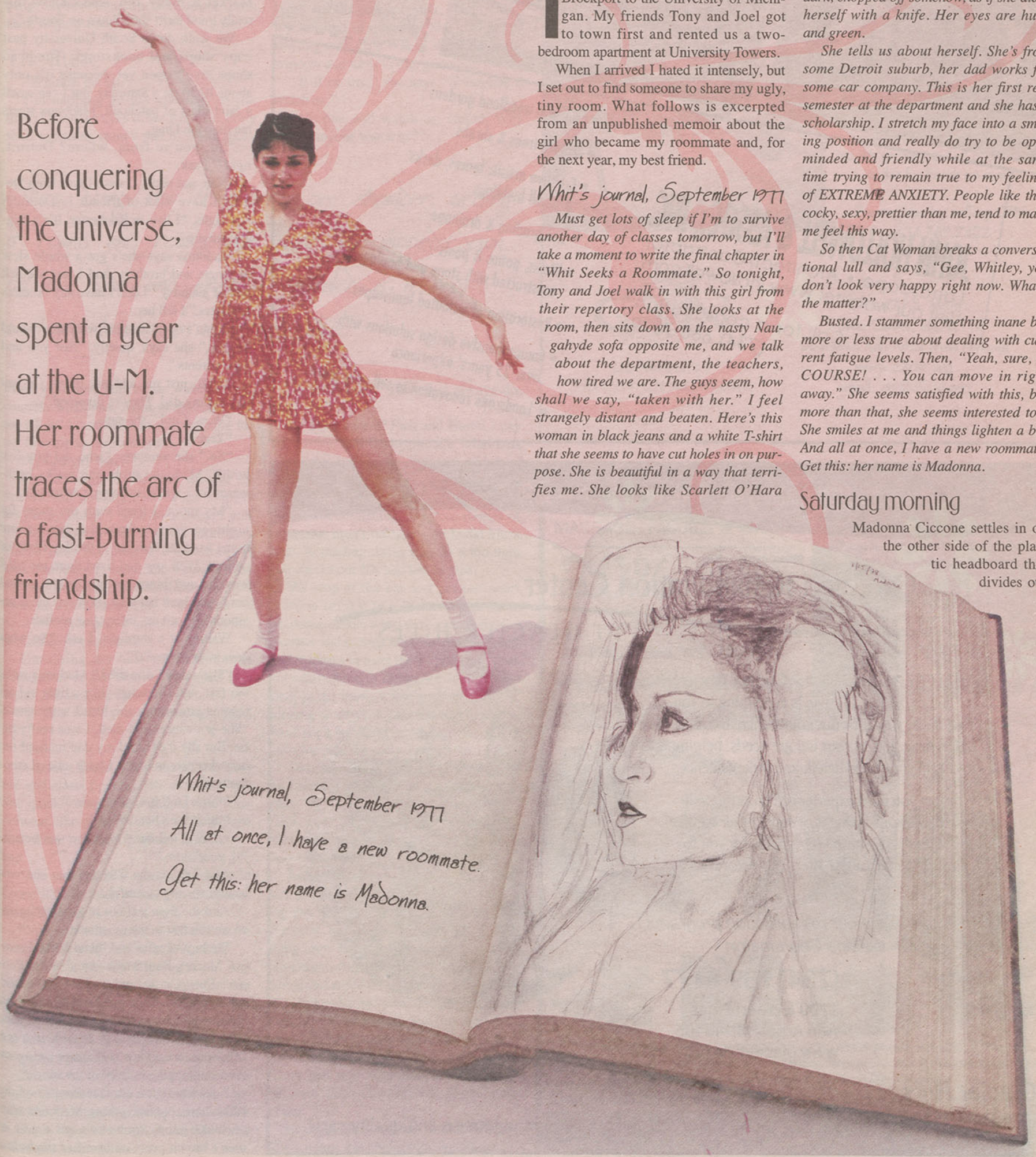
Like a Virgin

by Whitley Hill

Before conquering the universe, Madonna spent a year at the U-M. Her roommate traces the arc of a fast-burning friendship.



In the fall of 1977, I transferred with two other dance majors from SUNY Brockport to the University of Michigan. My friends Tony and Joel got to town first and rented us a two-bedroom apartment at University Towers.

When I arrived I hated it intensely, but I set out to find someone to share my ugly, tiny room. What follows is excerpted from an unpublished memoir about the girl who became my roommate and, for the next year, my best friend.

Whit's journal, September 1977

Must get lots of sleep if I'm to survive another day of classes tomorrow, but I'll take a moment to write the final chapter in "Whit Seeks a Roommate." So tonight, Tony and Joel walk in with this girl from their repertory class. She looks at the room, then sits down on the nasty Naugahyde sofa opposite me, and we talk about the department, the teachers, how tired we are. The guys seem, how shall we say, "taken with her." I feel strangely distant and beaten. Here's this woman in black jeans and a white T-shirt that she seems to have cut holes in on purpose. She is beautiful in a way that terrifies me. She looks like Scarlett O'Hara postwar—thin, stretched face, bony shoulders (the shirt drapes over one), hair quite dark, chopped off somehow, as if she did it herself with a knife. Her eyes are huge and green.

She tells us about herself. She's from some Detroit suburb, her dad works for some car company. This is her first real semester at the department and she has a scholarship. I stretch my face into a smiling position and really do try to be open minded and friendly while at the same time trying to remain true to my feelings of EXTREME ANXIETY. People like this, cocky, sexy, prettier than me, tend to make me feel this way.

So then Cat Woman breaks a conversational lull and says, "Gee, Whitley, you don't look very happy right now. What's the matter?"

Busted. I stammer something inane but more or less true about dealing with current fatigue levels. Then, "Yeah, sure, of COURSE! . . . You can move in right away." She seems satisfied with this, but more than that, she seems interested too. She smiles at me and things lighten a bit. And all at once, I have a new roommate. Get this: her name is Madonna.

Saturday morning

Madonna Ciccone settles in on the other side of the plastic headboard that divides our

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Like a Virgin

beds. On our first morning as roommates she wakes me up with tea and a little dish of strange pellets.

"Corn nuts. They're good. You can have them for breakfast."

She's wearing old men's boxer shorts and a long white T-shirt.

"Wanna go to the co-op?" she crunches. "We need to buy food. The Farmers' Market is today, too. And I know this really good thrift shop down on Fourth."

We walk down South University past copy shops and bookstores. The head shops aren't open yet, because it's only about 10:30 on a Saturday, but I can smell a faint blast of patchouli. Madonna steers me onto the Diag.

"So, you're from, where? Detroit, right?" I ask.

"Nah, not really. I wish I was from Detroit. I have a lot of friends in Detroit." She sighs. "I live in Rochester. It's a friggin' suburb."

Madonna says she's got a whole slew of sisters and brothers, and I feel a quick bolt of jealousy. "I don't have any brothers or sisters," I tell her.

"I can't even imagine what that would be like," she says, quietly. "Just you and your parents."

"Well, just me and my mom. Or just me and my dad. They're divorced."

"Wow. Cool," she says.

"Yeah."

"So," she ventures, "who did you live with?" Madonna turns and walks backwards for a while, facing me as we talk.

"My mom. I lived with my mom for eighteen years—from the day I came home from the hospital to the day I left for college. Well, my dad lived there too till I was five and things got ugly and he moved out." And I tell her a lot about my close relationship with my interesting mother.

Waiting at a stoplight, I ask, "So what does your mom do?"

"She's dead. She died," Madonna says, too fast, and singsong—like a little kid repeating something she heard somewhere. "She-got-cancer-and-died. I was really little. But she died. And my dad married the housekeeper, and now I have an evil stepmother."

I think I tell her, "I'm sorry."

I think I tell her, "Wow."

I think I tell her, "I bet she was beautiful, your mom."

And I think she tells me that she was beautiful, very beautiful.

And the light's about to turn red again, so we run fast to the other side.

We buy veggies and bread at the Farmers' Market, Bear Mush cereal at the People's Food Co-op, and cookies at the bakery next door. Then we head to the thrift shop, where I bump into a display of used sunglasses and nearly knock it over. Madonna cracks up and starts trying on shades, mugging in front of the mirror.

I quickly figure out that there's nothing I like here, but everything Madonna tries on looks great. Soon she's got a pair of men's brown pants on over her shorts and

she's cinched them tight with a belt. She slips into a pair of brown wingtips and walks over to the mirror—heel-toe, heel-toe, heel-toe, very precise and in line. She slaps a man's hat on her head, stares at herself for a moment, and turns to me. "Okay, let's go. I don't got no more moola, anyway."

Forty-five minutes later we're back in the apartment—with all the windows open, because it's suddenly hot as blazes. I put Earth, Wind, and Fire on the stereo as we put away the food, and pretty soon we're dancing around the kitchen, flapping cupboards open, slamming them shut, singing along.

The Rube

"Whitley, get up."

I'm napping on my mattress on the floor. I open my eyes to see two pale, bony shins sprouting from a pair of sweat socks filled with feet. This is my wake-up call, courtesy Madonna. I look at the clock and see it's 9:14 p.m. Time to start dressing for my first trip to the Rubaiyat.

My first gay bar.

I go through my dresser drawer by drawer, but nothing defines the sloppy/sexy/artsy image I wish to convey. I pull out an old white button-down shirt purloined from my mother's wardrobe. It looks unbearably ugly, and I throw it on the bed with the other outcasts. Finally I settle on a red Alvin Ailey T-shirt with the neck cut out, a pair of jeans, and my white jazz shoes, nicely scuffed.

I'm doing my hair when Madonna comes out of the shower, wrapped in a towel, and looks at me.

"Is that what you're wearing, Whitley?"

"Yes."

A brief silence. Then she moves past me and starts opening her own drawers. She quickly steps into a pair of men's underwear. She pulls on her torn black jeans and turns around topless to look at my bed.

"Are you gonna wear that shirt? Could I wear it?" she asks, pointing to the take-a-letter-Miss-Jones oxford.

"You can't be serious. You want to wear that? It's my mother's. It's awful."

But she's already slipping it on. She buttons the shirt up to her breastbone and rolls the sleeves up to the elbows. She tucks one side in and leaves the other hanging down over a thin thigh. I feel as if I'm watching a painter at work, or a sculptor.

She sits on the floor to put on her own grimy Capezios. I call a cab while she applies the final touches: heavy black eyeliner, then a dangly earring on one side and a safety pin in the other.

As we get in the cab I notice that I feel proud to be seen with my roommate. She's got a buzzy little energy working inside her tonight, and I'm getting hits off it.

"You nervous, Whitto?" she whispers in my ear.

"I don't know if nervous is the word. What's gonna happen? Are you going to stick with me?"

"Of course I'll stick with you. You're my date."

I'm feeling a little strange, and Maddie picks right up on it. She rolls down the window and yells to a bunch of sorority types standing on a corner, "Hey! Whitley's scared of dancing! She's scared of dancing with girls!" Then she rolls up the window and turns to me, grinning.

"It'll be fun," she says. "Everyone'll watch us."

"No one will watch us, stupid. Why would anyone watch us?"

She's doing this thing with one shoulder, circling it round and round. Her shirt has slipped down on one side, and what is revealed is a sexy anatomy lesson, precise and alive.

"I don't know. They just always do, that's all."

At the corner of First and Huron I pay the cabbie and crawl outside. Madonna opens the door to the club and a blast of throbbing music pours onto the quiet street. The place smells like smoke and beer and sweat, but something else, too: flashes of expensive men's cologne—no Jovan Musk here. A snarling Asian man in a too-tight suit checks our IDs and lets us pass.

We stop at the bar and get our poor-relation drinks: two Perriers with lime. Madonna makes a big show out of digging quarters and nickels from her change purse, and manages to meet the $1 price tag. Then we snake through the crowd to the dance floor at the back. A few guys are dancing, looking somewhat sheepish and tentative. Mad slips her hand around my wrist and pulls me onto the sticky parquet floor.

The music's loud and gut-stirring: Donna Summer wailing that song about wet cake. We charge right to the center of the floor, and I consciously blur my eyes and start moving as creatively as I can. I know how to do this.

Just by dancing, Madonna makes herself the vortex of the room. There's nothing that unusual about what she's doing—it's how, it's the intent, the charge. Any flung arm, any sudden thrust of her bony hip pulses with extra energy. Madonna's a complicated person; I've known that from the start, and her dancing mirrors that. Feet on the downbeat, hips on the backbeat, head and hands sprinkling pops and tiny crashes that shatter upon release. Every now and again, she spins tightly—one, two, three times around, like a figure skater.

Her eyes close, and her head falls back. She's doing this thing with one shoulder,

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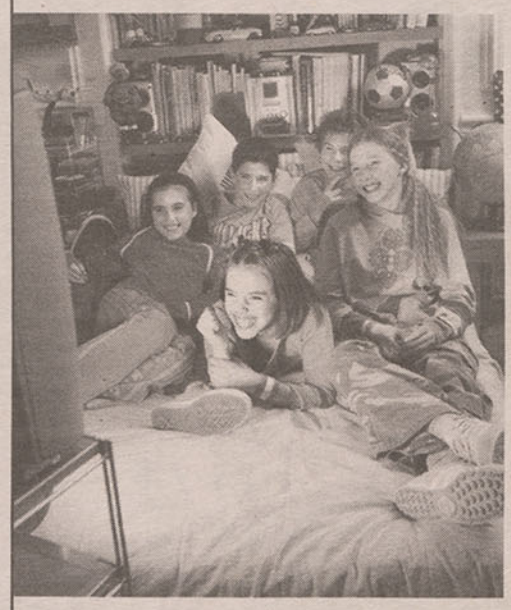

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Like a Virgin

circling it round and round. Her shirt (my shirt—no, my mother's shirt) has slipped down on one side, and what is revealed is a sexy anatomy lesson, precise and alive.

Her head climbs slowly up and her eyes open. She looks at me and smiles, red lips over white teeth.

Why the hell is she looking at me that way? God, she's beautiful. Am I beautiful too?

Madonna keeps moving closer to me. I assume she's just caught up in the moment and close my eyes, swept away by the music, the lights, the attar of impending sex that sweats through the room.

Then someone's hand is against my face. I open my eyes to see Madonna's arm reaching out to me like some kind of misplaced umbilicus joining us together. Right on cue (she must've known it was coming), the music flips into a percussion solo. She's got her gaze stomping right into my eyeballs, and I'm stomping right back—I'll be damned if this wee suburbanite is gonna stare me down. But now her face is getting closer and closer and her hips are, uh, really going at it and gee, Mom, it's just dancing, and what exactly, please, is going on? And suddenly Madonna's got her thigh between my legs.

It's not just occupying negative space, it's really cramming in there, and pressing rhythmically and, well, isn't this interesting, and does this mean I'm a lesbian now? The other dancers are standing on the side watching us and hooting it up and it's official: we *are* the center of the universe.

I take a deep breath and attempt to look cool and confident and sexually voracious. I peek at the crowd. Yup. They've bought it.

I wait till the end of a particularly throbbing measure and then pull away into a couple of turns along with a big swoopy kick to the side for effect. Madonna pops off another spin, this time kind of low to the ground (she's varying her use of spatial planes, I note, recalling comp class theory).

She's right; it is fun. We dance for a long, long time, until our shirts stick to us and euphoria becomes the norm. Other people join us on the dance floor; pretty soon it's a mob scene.

We stay till closing time, drinking water and wine and flirting outrageously with anyone at all. But we keep close together, a unit, filling our chatter with private jokes and double entendres, laughing and feigning mystery.

Snow day

I wake to the sound of Madonna rummaging around in the kitchen, humming something, making too much noise, trying to get me up. The room has a different light, and I know what that means.

"Good morning, and has there been a snowstorm?" I call out sleepily.

"Good morning and shit yeah, there's been a snowstorm," answers Madonna (clatter-clatter). She appears in the doorway, working on a piece of gum already.

"Look outside, Whitley. It's still really comin' down."

"I don't need to look outside. I'm so warm and tired and it's Saturday, right? I'm not dreaming?"

"It's Saturday, but get up. We're going to the studio to work out." She turns and goes back in the kitchen.

"Not me, I'm not," I holler to her back. "I have plans."

"What plans?" (Clatter.)

"I'm gonna finish *Beneath the Wheel* and then do last Sunday's puzzle."

Right.

Ann Arbor seems a ghost town—a few plows clunking by, an intrepid student now and again. The snow is very deep. It's hard walking in this big wind, but we're laughing and cussing.

Inside the Dance Building, we lean gratefully against the heater in the vestibule and then climb to Studio A on the second floor. With no one else around, we strip down and change into sweats right in front of a bank of windows.

We stretch, step to the barre, and go through the familiar sequence of steps that link us to some old French king: pliés, tendus, dégagés . . . and suddenly Madonna stops.

"Whit, did I ever show you my aging ballet teacher impression? Wait, close your eyes."

I shut them.

"Okay. Open." Her voice is strangely tight.

Madonna's got her eyes open wide and her lips pursed and has somehow made every tendon in her neck stick out about an inch, like subcutaneous pencils. I burst out laughing.

"Get that leg higher! Higher!" she squawks and then drops down, giggling, rubbing her neck.

I've brought my cassette player and a tape of Bach sinfonias. Madonna and I take turns making phrases of movement and stringing them together. After thirty minutes or so of this, we have a good phrase to dance in unison, then in canon. Everything fits together nicely, and we're sweating and feeling at one with Bach and each other. Just a coupla undergrad white-girl innocents emoting to classical music.

"I'm done," I say, flopping down to the floor, breathing heavily. Madonna cools down racehorse fashion, walking her walk about the room. Heel-toe, heel-toe, heel-toe. It's the walk of someone whose passion is making the exactly right footprint every step she takes.

We shower, walk to the corner of Washtenaw and South University, and stick our thumbs out. Madonna, bundled in jackets and sweaters and scarves, looks like a tailor from the Lodz Ghetto. All I can see are her eyes through a slit in the knitting. She catches me looking and squints.

"What?"

"Nothing."

"Why are you looking at me like that?"

"I'm not. I'm not looking at you any way at all."

"Well, why aren't you, you little shit? Why aren't you looking?"

She laughs and flicks snow on me.

We get a ride to the mall with a taciturn

businessman in a big car. He seems pleased to be ferrying two nimble artistes. We gambol in the empty Kroger, dancing in the aisles. We get a bunch of cookies from the bakery counter, eat them as we shop, and stuff the baggie with the price tag behind some soup cans. We laugh and eat candy and flirt with the help.

I do a line of fast-spinning chaîné turns down the entire detergent aisle. We spend about five minutes doing contact improv in front of the meat counter, interpreting the Muzak. Madonna reaches deep into a frozen food case with her left leg in a stunning, near-split arabesque. A toddler in a blue snowsuit sits in his cart and watches her, wide eyed. "Excuse me," mumbles his mother as she reaches past Madonna for some waffles.

Back at the apartment, we thaw our feet, and Madonna gets busy in the kitchen making popcorn. I put on Laura Nyro and curl up on the vinyl couch with last Sunday's puzzle. The guys are out somewhere.

Madonna's need to be front, center, and universally adored sucks the air from the room. It is annoying. It is deeply tiring. I am no longer amused.

Madonna sits down next to me with the bowl of popcorn and looks over my shoulder.

"How'd you get good at crosswords?" she asks.

"I don't know. My mother loves them. We just always did them."

"Well, tell me again about your mom and being a kid in New York and stuff."

So I put down my pencil and tell her stories from my childhood. About sunbathing on the roof of my building with my mother on hot days, and how the city would smell like river water and tar. About going to Bloomingdale's, and going out on Saturday nights, late, just me and her, to get the *New York Times* and a pint of ice cream. I tell her about how we ate kumquats.

"You ate kumquats with your mother?" she asks.

"Well, yeah. I mean, that's not all we ate. We ate regular stuff too."

"But you'd do the puzzle together and eat kumquats. On Saturday nights?"

"Well, yeah. We did."

"It just sounds so nice to me," says Madonna.

The stereo reaches the end of the record and shuts itself off. Outside, moaning wind. We sit quietly together.

Madonna puts the popcorn bowl on the floor and reaches across me to turn out the light. Then she lies down and puts her head in my lap, right on top of the Sunday puzzle.

"I'm tired," she says.

"Do you want to sleep a bit? You can, you know. It's fine."

"Okay."

"Madonna?"

"Mmm?"

"I'm sorry about your mother."

"I know. Thanks."

"You miss her, huh?"

"Yeah, I do."

"I miss her too. I miss her for you."

"Okay."

Bloody nose

Whit's journal, January 1978

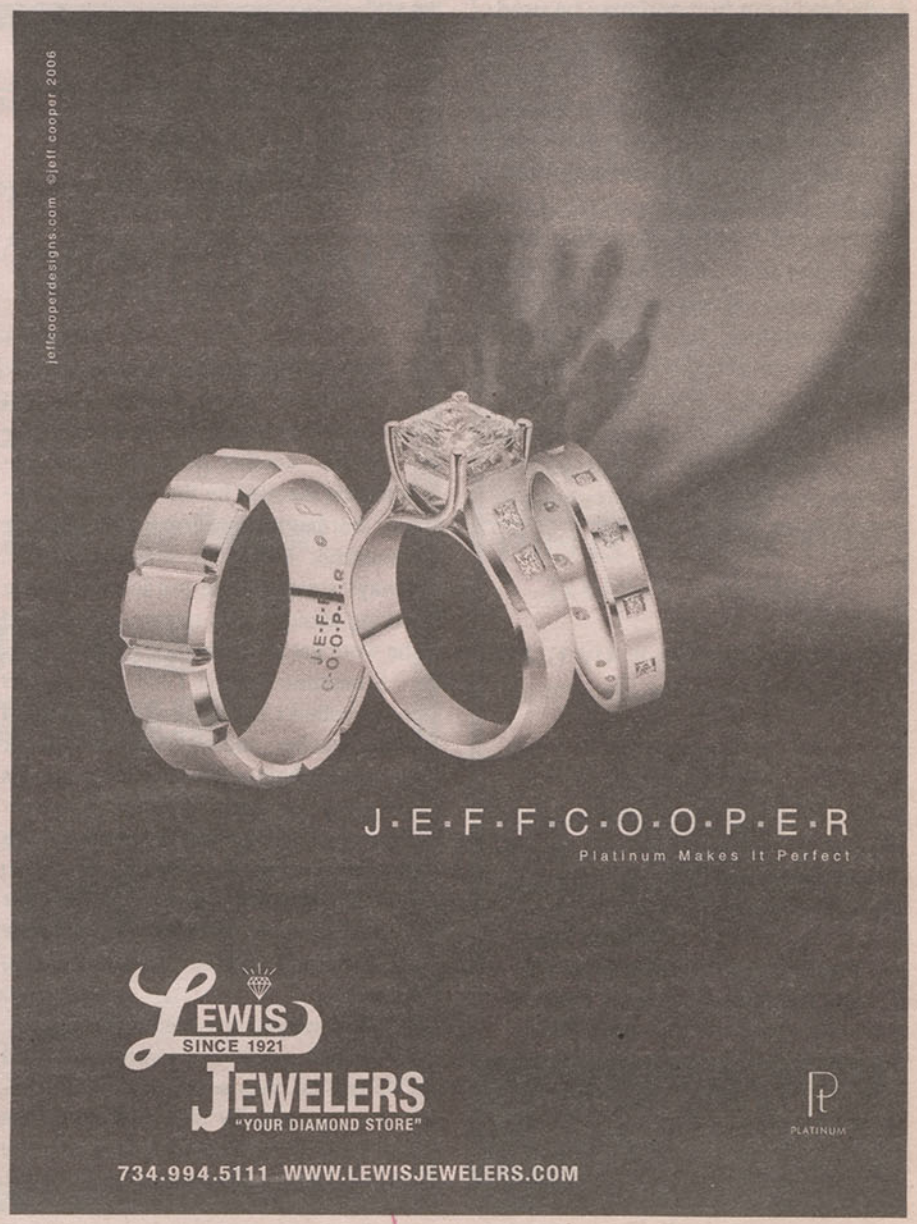
Everybody's asleep but I have to get this down before I forget it. I won't remember this on my own 'cause tonight's the night I lost about 600,000 brain cells that I'll never get back. So, tonight at the Rube, in the middle of the dance floor, Madonna starts using her arms in a BIG way and I swear, she punches me in the nose. I have never been punched in the nose before. I've seen it in movies and cartoons and it looks painful and let me tell you it IS painful. Actually see stars (how clichéd) . . . but every mirrored tile on the disco light is a star. I want to just lie down on the ground and nap, but there's this sudden, instantaneous clarity, this voice saying, "Keep dancing! Whatever you do, keep dancing!" So I do. Then I start thinking, "If I punched someone in the nose, wouldn't I notice and ask if they were okay?" I peek. Madonna's dancing away, her eyes elosed, ecstatic little Sufi thing. I stumble off the floor and go to the bathroom and splash water on my face. I blow my nose but all I get is sweat and snot and a little blob of blood. I go back and pick up where I left off. I don't even think she noticed I was gone. And so I keep dancing—all the way through the percussion solo in "Turn the Beat Around." I dance and dance. Falling down would spoil everything.

Spinning magnets

By the middle of the winter semester the novelty has worn off. The apartment seems to have shrunk. I'm not exactly sure why, but Maddie and I are sometimes tense with each other. It's fine when we're alone. Then, she's my buddy, my confidante. She listens and gives sage advice. She bolsters me and reminds me of basic truths. So this, I say to myself, is what having a sister is like.

But in a group, any group at all, that pesky switch is thrown and her need to be front, center, and universally adored sucks the air from the room. It is annoying. It is deeply tiring. I am no longer amused.

And when I pull away, even slightly, I can feel her change. The affection, the protestations of love and undying friendship, the caresses and nuzzling grow rampant and then turn off, abruptly. We're like spinning magnets, drawing together, pushing apart.



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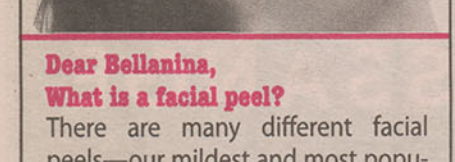

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Like a Virgin

On my birthday, a dark, cold, and sleet-struck day, she takes me to lunch at Eden's, a hippie-run vegetarian cafe. I know she doesn't have any money, but she insists on paying. She is so sweet, and it means so much to me. On Valentine's Day she hands me a little-kid-style card with a bear on it. "Happy Valentine's Day!" it reads and then, scribbled in black pen, "I love you more and more and more . . ." and so on—too many "more's" to count, each getting smaller and smaller.

During the spring semester, Madonna and I stay in town taking an intensive dance repertory class. One day we take a break from rehearsal at Drake's, eating cream cheese and raisin bread sandwiches and drinking their signature limeade. Later, if we have the inclination, we will steal fudge to hoard for later. Have I mentioned that Madonna has instructed me in the ways of fudge theft? She has. I've learned a lot from her since September. I think she's learned from me too.

On this particular day, I have news. Though we've been talking about living together throughout the summer and on into the next year, my plans are changing. I've decided to join a caravan of seeker types who are going to the Rainbow Gathering in Oregon. I leave in two weeks.

"I'll miss you, Mad, I really will. I was looking forward to all those days at the river and baking and maybe camping like we said . . ."

Madonna looks out the window as she says this next bit: "Well, you'll miss me either way."

"What? What do you mean?"

"I'm leaving too. I was gonna wait to tell you but I might as well do it now. I've got almost enough for a ticket to New York, and I think I can get someone to loan me the rest. So I'm gonna go and take all the classes I can take."

"Are you coming back?"

"I dunno. I don't think so, but I just don't know. My dad's *gonna be mad* if I don't. Oh, Whit, while I'm thinking of it—your dad knows lots of interesting people, doesn't he? Maybe he knows someone I could stay with? Can I have his number?"

I tell her sure. I tell her maybe she should come with me to Oregon? My words hang in the air.

We both know that she won't be coming, that we need to go in the most opposite directions possible. I know by now that I don't want Madonna standing beside me on some western highway with her thumb sticking out, don't want to watch her reeling in a snaking line of pretty boys like so many quivering bass. I need to clear my palate, and a continent should do the trick. Is this abandonment? She's my best friend, isn't she? She needs me.

Madonna takes a deep breath, picks up her glass, and softly bites the rim, gazing out at the teeming Diag.

Sunset

It is a Sunday, the last day we live together. The semester is over. The lease is finally up on our monstrosity apartment.

"Whit-leee. Geddup."

The shins. This is the last time I will be awakened by shins. She crouches down.

"Geddup, okay? We're going to the river. My sister Paula has a bike for you. Let's go swimming. It's so friggin' hot outside."

In honor of our last day as roommates, we have bean sprout omelets at Steve's Lunch and hike through the sunshine to pick up the bikes.

The road snakes for miles and miles along the Huron. Madonna is ahead of me, sometimes standing on the pedals to get up some speed, or coasting down the hills with her hands at her sides.

About five miles outside of town, on an old concrete bridge, Madonna pulls her bike off the road. "This is it," she says.

We hide the bikes in some bushes and cross to the other side of the road, where the train tracks fly off in either direction. And way down below, the river burbles dark green over white stones.

"Uh, how are we supposed to get down there?" I ask.

She doesn't answer—just points to a concrete buttress that stretches down to the riverbank at a very steep angle.

A very steep angle.

In her battered Adidas, Madonna hops onto the embankment—it's maybe a foot wide—and starts a quick and precise chain of steps to the bottom. Why is she so damn fearless? I take a deep breath and follow her. At the bottom, I stop and think: a year ago, would I have walked down a steep embankment? No, I don't think I would have.

We sprint along a narrow, muddy path, hopping over roots and fallen trees. The river tumbles beside us, sending wafts of iron and moss. Suddenly the path widens

Selling the Material Girl

RODNEY FLETCHER

Whitley Hill gets interviewed for Japanese TV in 2006.

They say, invariably, the same thing.

"So [ahem, pause, shuffle] . . . is it true you were Madonna's roommate?"

Damn—another perfectly good conversation derailed by the accident of history that put me in a room with a sweet, sometimes obnoxious, sometimes sage, always scrappy little pre-icon. If I hate talking about it, one might ask, how did the word get out in the first place?

Sometime around 1983, the *Detroit News* called Christopher Flynn, my old ballet teacher, and interviewed him for an article about a new pop phenom: his longtime protégée, Madonna Ciccone. Flynn gave the reporter my number. I felt protective of my scrawny little friend, so I talked about her—about how hard she worked and how smart she was, and how no, I was not surprised at her fledgling success.

That opened the media floodgates. Next came a Japanese journalist, then a PBS special, then several other miscellaneous rags and TV shows. By the time *Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous* came calling, I was getting bored and annoyed, and was no longer feeling particularly protective of this strange and glittery blond I no longer knew.

So I decided to start charging for my time. The interviews were still boring and annoying—but for an always broke choreographer/songwriter, they also proved quite an acceptable way to hustle a house payment or two.

A friend said, "You should write a book!" So I did. It made the rounds of various fancy publishers who loved the writing but said things like "People don't want a literary memoir about Madonna—they want dirt!" I am, however, immensely proud of it.

My whiny attitude about all this still resurfaces from time to time. One producer cajoled me, "But this show is *different!* It's *classy!* We'll shoot you against a *black backdrop!*"

Oooh.

I did it, as ever, for the check.

—*W.H.*

out into a small grassy area where hippie-ish folks are sunbathing, some naked, some not. They greet us with smiles. It feels pretty wholesome. Directly across on the opposite bank are more naked bodies. Several more bob in the water.

We strip off our clothes and wade in. We stay there all afternoon, playing, splashing, and flirting with hippies.

The ride back into town seems much shorter, even though we're tired and sunburned. Paula's home, and we hang there for a while, eating stuff. Madonna gets inspired and starts baking bread. She stands there in the kitchen in her shorts and bra, up to her elbows in flour, listening to Stevie Wonder.

While the dough rises, we walk Paula to work at the Earle. She goes inside, and we're just standing on the sidewalk watching the sunset when Madonna gets this look in her eye.

She ducks into an alley and points to a fire escape on the side of the old brick building, and to a ladder that hangs down. By standing on a garbage can we can easily reach the ladder and climb it to the fire escape. It teeters a bit sickeningly as we run up the metal stairs to the roof.

God, it's beautiful up there. It's *Mary Poppins* and *Peter Pan* and a Carole King song, all rolled up and smoked. The sun is a sticky orange ball; you could lick it and it would taste good. We stand at the parapet and look west. We put our arms around each other, watching the sun go down. Then we go dance on the roof for a while.

"Hey Madonna," I say. She's lying on the tar watching a flock of birds roll through the evening sky.

"What?"

"What do you think these pipes are?" I'm leaning against one of those weird roof pipes. I think they have something do with furnaces or toilets.

"Shit, I don't know. Why?"

"Well because when I was a kid and my mom and I were up on the roof of our building, I would always bring a penny, and when she wasn't looking I would drop it down the pipes. I thought it was probably good luck. I would drop it down and listen and listen for the clink. The clink meant good luck—a happy life."

I fish a penny out of my shorts, stand on my tiptoes, and look down the hole. I slowly inch the penny to the edge and push it over the side. Clink. Far, far down.

"Oh, good," I say. "I'm lucky. I'm a lucky girl."

Madonna watches the birds. She stretches one leg up to the sky and pulls it close to her chest. Then the other.

"I'm getting cold," she says, rolling to her feet.

I'm one flight down the fire escape when I realize Madonna's not behind me.

"Hey—you coming? What are you . . ."

I climb back up and peek over the wall. Madonna is standing by the pipe, silhouetted against the orange-purple sunset. She is stretched as high as she can go, peering into the circle of black. Her fingers snake over the edge, drop something in. Then, quick-quick, she presses her ear to the metal.

She listens. I don't ask her what she hears. ■

RODNEY FLETCHER

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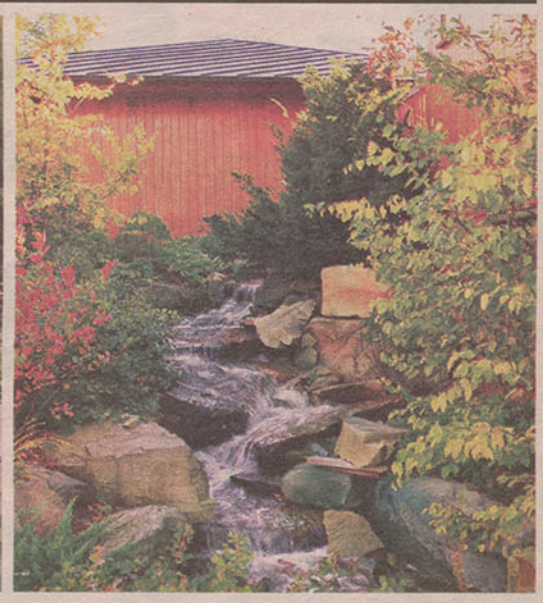

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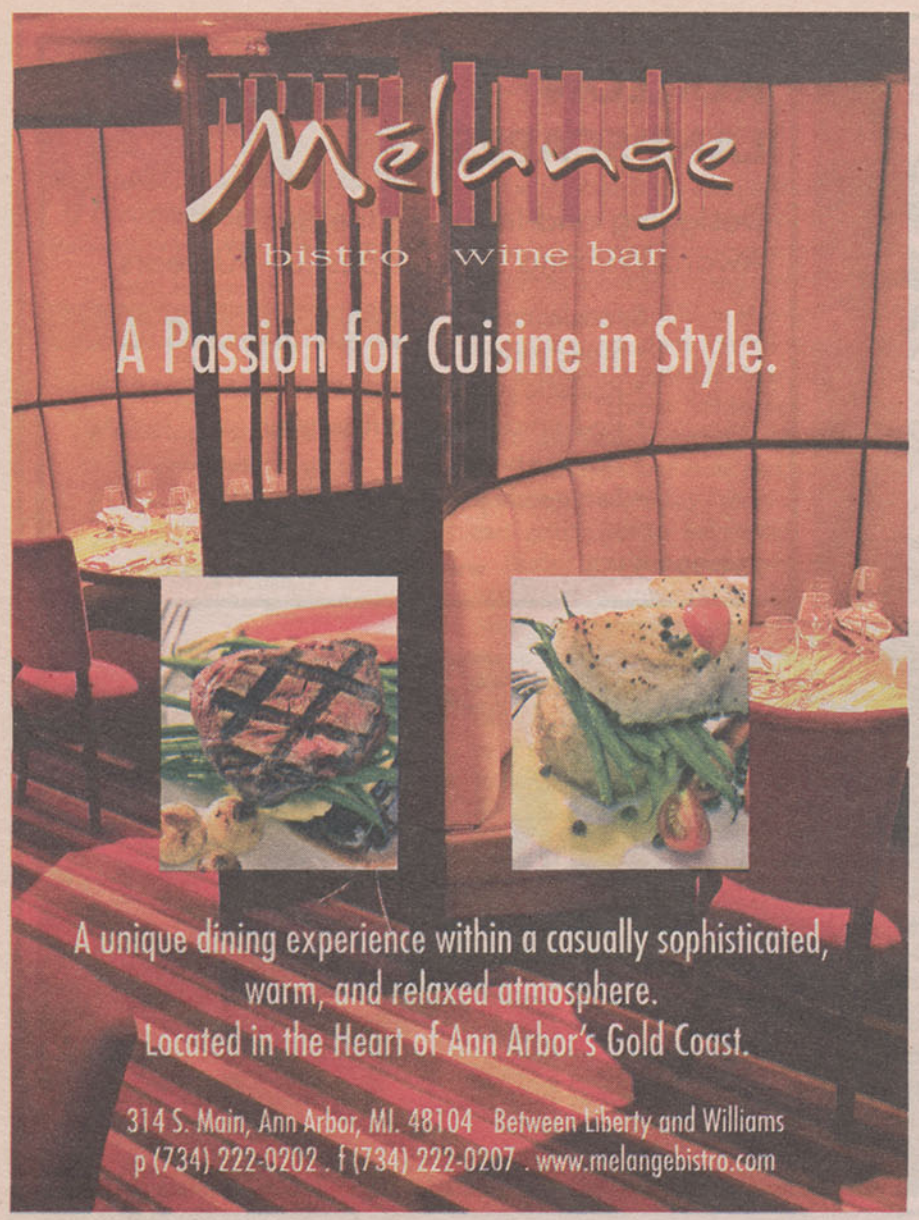
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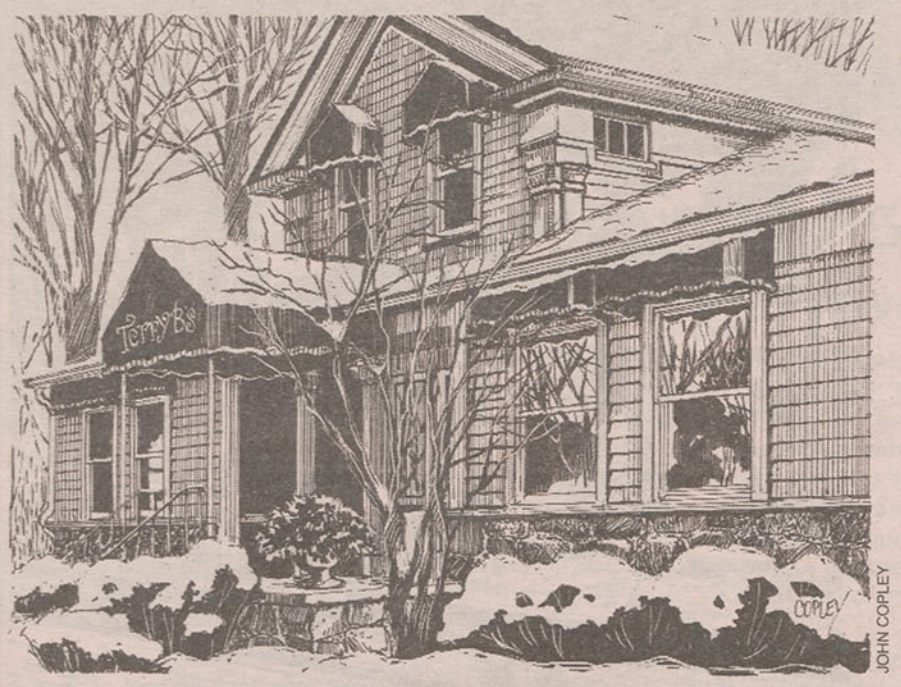

JOHN COPLEY

Terry B's

Dexter destination

Lord knows what judge Samuel Dexter, a staunch temperance advocate, would think of the sleek new bar at Terry B's in the village he founded 183 years ago. The bar is the centerpiece of an $800,000 renovation that took the little house on Ann Arbor Street from Cousins Heritage Inn (and, briefly, the Tuscan Grill) to Terry B's.

While the exterior lines remain familiar, Cousins's Victorian-parlor ambience is gone. Architects Alexander and Ezati led the building's transformation, which included removing part of the second-story interior to open up the space, and adding that custom-built bar along with many other fine handcrafted details.

On my first visit to Terry B's, a couple of weeks after it opened last summer, I found it boring. I wonder if that was before twenty-six-year-old Doug Hewitt, originally hired as the sous chef, stepped up to the executive chef position—because I have to hand it to this new young guy. Chef Hewitt has pulled together a surprisingly interesting menu, which his kitchen generally executes well.

In many dishes, they show a particularly skilled hand with vegetables. For my money, Terry B's best appetizer is vegetarian—marvelous sweet potato gnocchi. The plump dumplings are tossed with wilted spinach and topped with a simple brown butter and a sprinkling of toasted almonds.

I liked the fried calamari, too, near-greaseless and accompanied by a corn and black bean salsa and an uninhibited spicy rémoulade. I had problems with the vegetable spring rolls, though; the outside was crackling crisp, but the filling was somewhat mushy and indistinguishable in taste.

Somewhere it is written that every Michigan menu must have a whitefish entree, but Terry B's rises above the mundane. This interpretation is beautifully balanced, with a cashew crust encasing moist fish, while an accompanying asparagus risotto lends a creamy richness and cherry-apple slaw adds both texture and acidity.

The duck is a classic, reminiscent of a version I had at the Five Lakes Grill in Milford, where chef Hewitt also did a stint. Here he turns out a very slightly salty-smoky and fall-apart tender confit leg, surrounded by rare medallions of sautéed breast and a lovely side of creamy cabbage, although another side, mushroom bread pudding, was too dry.

I'd also recommend the arctic char, quickly seared and served with buttery Swiss chard and light savory fritters studded with bits of lobster. Surprisingly, the filet mignon was mediocre—more toward the medium side of our medium-rare order and lacking the kind of pizzazz the other dishes show. But the lasagna was one of the best vegetarian entrees I've tasted in ages: a rich mix of grilled veggies from red peppers to portobellos, squash, and red onions, layered with spinach ricotta and topped with fresh arugula.

Desserts are delicious if not daring—a gooey-centered warm chocolate cake, a creamy berry tart on a buttery crust, a standard flan—and after-dinner coffee was unusually good.

The people at Terry B's are doing a lot of things right in my book. Portions are sane rather than excessive; they do all their own smoking (such as salmon and pancetta) and brining (pork and pheasant); and, to the extent they can, they're buying local. Chef Hewitt says he's looking to work with more local farmers, and was delighted in summer and fall to have access to produce from Matt Hubbard, a Dexter architect and organic farmer. Terry B's offers beers and ales from the Corner Brewery in Ypsilanti and Dexter's own Jolly Pumpkin Brewery.

The service was a little loose on a couple of visits, indicative of a new place with a mostly young staff. There were occasional food gaffes—one server referred to the "papaya special" and went on to describe paella—and on two visits the timing between courses was slightly off but not painfully so. That noted, even the neophytes were cheerful and hardworking, and the dining room clearly has strong leadership. On one visit assistant manager Laura Nesbitt took our table in hand masterfully, throwing an impromptu mini wine tasting for us so that we'd have just the right pairings for our chosen dishes.

The actual Terry B. is Dr. Terry Braciszewski, a neuropsychologist and director of the Ann Arbor Rehabilitation Centers. Braciszewski told me he's mostly a hands-off owner, but he and wife Kate want to make their restaurant welcoming to all, including families (there is a children's menu).

Although still in its first year, Terry B's is already beginning to enjoy modest success and employs some twenty-five people. That's something even old Judge Dexter could get behind: a nice little economic engine that could power his village through the new century—and do so with creative, well-crafted food.

Terry B's
7954 Ann Arbor Street, Dexter
426–3727

Tues.–Thurs. 4–10 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 4–11 p.m. Closed Sun. & Mon.

Appetizers $6–$10, soups & salads $4–$7.50, flat-bread pizza $9, entrees $17–$25; children's menu $5

Disability friendly; wheelchair access through side door

Sushi.come

Japanese brunch

What are we supposed to do with this name? Is it Sushi-dot-come? Sushi-dot-com, misspelled? Or maybe just Sushi-come? And if I don't know what to call it, how do I tell friends to meet me there at, um, you know, whatchamacallit, that Japanese place that straddles both sides of that little mall on North University?

But in couple-speak, that's enough of a description for my spouse. And we're both intrigued with the idea of a Japanese buffet. While not big fans of the high-volume food slam-down, we like the idea of lots of sushi choices.

Sushi.come's all-you-can-eat buffet runs on Sundays from 11:30 to 2:30. We were the first customers to arrive at 11:40. I wanted to be early, figuring the raw-fish element doesn't lend itself to lingering displays. It turned out there was no need to be

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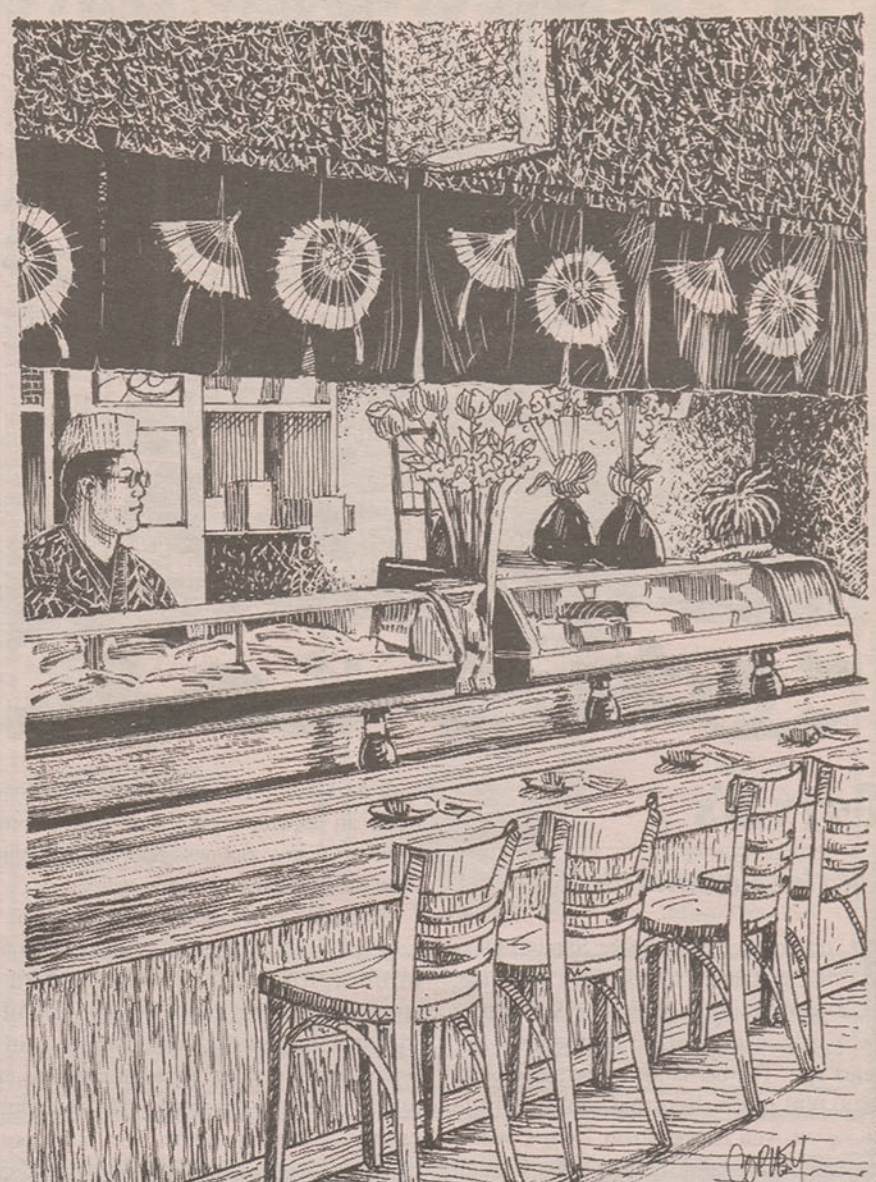

JOHN COPLEY

squeamish—the sushi chefs checked the buffet regularly, at least three times in the forty-five minutes we were there.

We each grabbed a faux lacquer mini-tray and began to compose our sushi-set with dabs of wasabi and pickled ginger. (The ginger is full bodied, but the wasabi is dreadfully wimpy.) Rather than fabulous or exotic, this is good, basic sushi—shrimp, salmon, or tuna *nigiri* elegant on a rectangle of sushi rice, and sliced *nori* including plenty of classic California rolls and crisp cucumber rolls. The only nori on the line that didn't work for me was the deep-fried one; it needs to be served instantly or the crunch turns to mush.

There's a lot more than sushi on the buffet. A tray of *unagi,* grilled eel in a soy-based sauce, turned out to be quite good. And, yum, squash and sweet potato tempura held up surprisingly well on the steam tray, as did *ebi shumai* shrimp dumplings the size and shape of a scallop, and meaty *gyoza* dumplings. Breaded and fried pork *katsu* looked good but tasted greasy, and the teriyaki salmon was overcooked and oily. But a delightful seaweed salad with sesame seeds and a dish of *edamame* poppers made nice starters.

I skipped the fruits and sweets. A thermos held good hot green tea, a rarity in a town where it's hard to find a decent cuppa. It's all self-serve except for the steaming bowl of miso soup servers bring to the table. With tax and the mandatory 15 percent service charge included, the brunch comes to $17.99 per person.

On later, nonbuffet visits, we came to understand the prominence of sushi in the restaurant's name. The tempura udon, for example, is only passable, a smallish bowl of noodles in an undistinguished broth and a couple of shrimpy tempura shrimp alongside. Really, sushi is the draw.

The menu lists twenty-two nigiri and more than fifty different rolls like "gluttonous dragon" and "diablo." I felt duty bound to try the "Michigan," curious as to how the chefs would get maize and blue into sushi. They don't, but I do wonder if this is a commentary on the midwestern physique—it's a spicy California roll thickly layered outside with avocado and salmon. Our favorite was a hand-rolled *maki* that held its crisp centerpiece of soft-shell crab admirably. At the waiter's recommendation we ordered the eel tempura, which was splendid for a cold day—the crunchy hot outer layer giving way to the various textures of eel, avocado, and crab.

Weekdays from 11 to 2:30 the dozen sushi specials are available in combinations with a tiny salad and hot miso soup, most for less than $10. Service at midday is surprisingly prompt, though my server's

The Zingerman's Times

25th anniversary

©2007 DSE Inc. March 2007 Printed in Ann Arbor Land of a thousand flavors

zingerman's through the years...

March 15, 1982—Zingerman's Delicatessen opens its doors

1992—Zingerman's Bakehouse sets up shop on Plaza Drive in Ann Arbor

1993—Zingerman's Mail Order ships its first package

1994—ZingTrain forms to share Zingerman's business philosophies and practices

2001—Zingerman's Creamery opens in Manchester. Later relocates next door to Bakehouse

2003—Zingerman's declared "the coolest small business in America" by Inc. Magazine

2003—Zingerman's Roadhouse opens in former Bill Knapp's spot on Jackson Rd.

2003—Zingerman's Coffee Co. comes onto the scene

2004—Zingerman's Roadshow "Ann Arbor's hippest drive-up coffee counter" sets up shop in the Roadhouse parking lot

March 15, 2007— Zingerman's celebrates 25th anniversary!

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Zingerman's Catering and Events	422 Detroit St. 663.3400
Zingerman's Bakehouse	3711 Plaza Dr. 761.2095
Zingerman's mail order	422 Detroit St. 888.636.8162
ZingTrain	PO Box 1837 930.1919
Zingerman's Creamery	3723 Plaza Dr. 929.0500
Zingerman's Coffee Company	422 Detroit St. 929.6060

www.Zingermans.com

Zingerman's celebrates 25 years

week of full-flavored events planned march 11-18

Ari Weinzweig and Paul Saginaw opened the doors of Zingerman's Delicatessen on March 15, 1982. It has since become what Mario Batali calls a "national treasure" and "the center of my gastrodeli universe!" With six local Zingerman's businesses growing up alongside the Deli over the past 25 years, Zingerman's has welcomed guests from all over to enjoy full-flavored food and great service. In honor of Zingerman's anniversary, the *Times* asked some of those visitors "What was your favorite Zingerman's experience?"

"I shopped at [Zingerman's] Deli the first day it opened in March 1982," Jackie Beach confessed. "I don't have a favorite Zingerman's experience; I simply enjoy the good food and service each time I go."

"We went to Zingerman's Bakehouse because my dad was on a mission to find an excellent baguette," writes Ann Schimke. "We bought our baguette and some butter and sat at the picnic table outside the Bakehouse to eat it. He said it was exactly what he envisioned...before our Zingerman's excursion he said he'd pretty much given up hope that he'd ever find a truly good baguette outside of France."

Janet Max notes, "We were at the Deli one evening, and my 10-year-old, Natasha, tried the chocolate gelato, and exclaimed, 'It's like having a 1,000 chocolate bars in my mouth at once!' Yep, and that's why we love it!"

Times sources reveal Zingerman's is inviting the whole community to join the anniversary party with a week's worth of great events.

The community comes together with Zingerman's Community of Businesses for a week of celebrations. More info online at:

www.zingermans.com/zing25

Zingerman's Anniversary Promotions and Events!

zingerman's festival of flavors

Sunday, March 11, 11am-4pm

The Zingerman's Community of Businesses joins many vendors that Zingerman's has worked with over the years to offer lots of samples, food and cooking demonstrations, and children's activities all under a heated tent outside the Deli on Detroit Street.

Receive 25% off any ONE item purchased at the Deli on March 11th during the Festival of Flavors.

3rd annual all you can eat corned beef and cabbage dinner

Saturday, March 17, noon-7 pm

In the Zingerman's Delicatessen Tent. $15.99 per person

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Full details along with great coffee available in March at Zingerman's Deli, Bakehouse, Mail Order & Roadhouse.

zingerman's tour de food grub crawl

Each Zingerman's location offers 25th anniversary specials on March 15. Guests who visit each location on that day and complete a passport win a limited edition 25th anniversary t-shirt. (Details available at any Zingerman's business. No purchase necessary).

Deli—Hark back to 1982. Enjoy $5 Zingerman's Reuben #2 nosher size and $1 cappuccinos.

Bakehouse Bake Shop—All cakes in the Bake Shop case, 25% off.

Creamery Cheese Shop—25% off the Detroit Street Brick

Roadhouse—A Road Tour of really good American food with sampler plates of Roadhouse appetizers and entrées plus dessert for $25.

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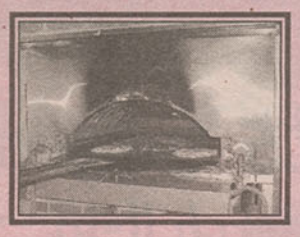

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attention fell off precipitously once the tip was proffered—she never cleared the dishes, and I waited ten minutes, in vain, for a second cup of tea.

The near-campus location is lively and the atmosphere pleasant, with lots of natural light and floor-to-ceiling Japanese fittings. Asian pop music, CNN-tuned flat screens, and a multiculti student presence give it a one-world vibe. It's oddly split into two spaces, on either side of the recently renamed Roumanis Square minimall. The sushi-bar side has more charm, but you'll want the larger dining room for brunch.

I'd generally slot Sushi.come into the upper middle of the pantheon of Ann Arbor Japanese restaurants—though the Sunday buffet does set it apart. And if you plan to get together there with friends, tell them to meet you at Sushi-dot-come.

Sushi.come
715 North University 213–3044

Mon.–Sat. 11 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Sun. 11:30 a.m.–9 p.m. (brunch 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.)

Dinner: appetizers $2.95–$6.95, soups & salads $1.25–$6.95, entrees $8.95–$15.95, dinner sushi combinations $10.95–$18.95. Lunch: sushi combination specials $7.45–$13.95, bento box combinations $8.45–$9.95, entrees $6.95–$8.95. Sushi rolls $1.99–$12.99; nigiri $1.99–$3.99. Sunday brunch buffet $17.99 per person including 15 percent service. Any order over $5 includes tea, miso soup, and small salad.

♿ Disability friendly (restrooms one floor down via elevators)

Quick Bites

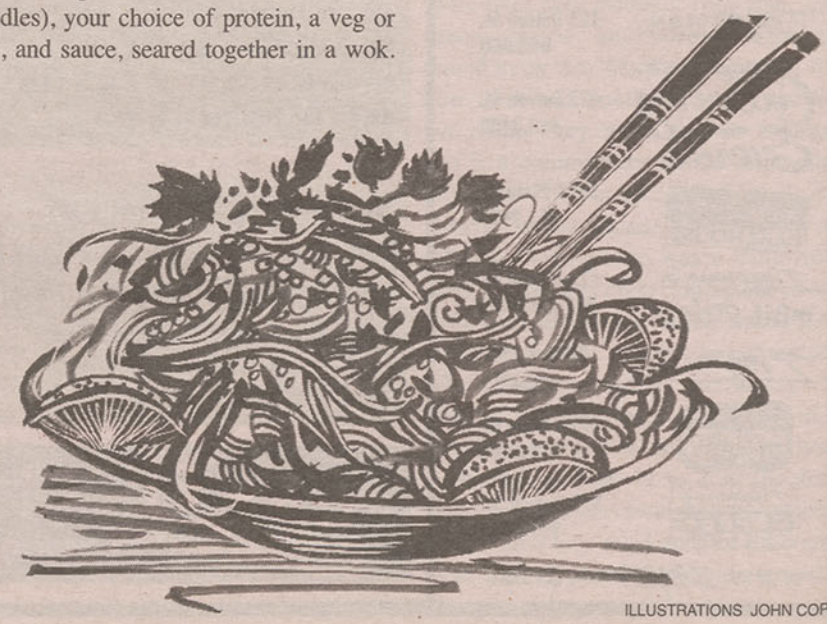
Eighteen months ago, **No Thai!** joined the ranks of cheap, interesting Asian eateries on South University. Its streamlined concept: fast, hot carbs (rice or rice noodles), your choice of protein, a veg or two, and sauce, seared together in a wok. You chose your level of spicy heat, too—from none to *dim mak* ("the death touch!"). The cooking is done in a teeny open kitchen crowded with a gaggle of cooks; the dining space is clean and bright with cool green walls, brushed metal accents, wood floors, and six four-top tables. Aside from a handful of sides, main dishes range from $7 to $9, with the majority priced right at $8, including tax.

Good bets are—no surprise here—red curry and drunken noodles. There's pad thai, too, of course, composed of stir-fry vermicelli, sprouts, egg, a sprinkling of crushed peanuts, and a squeeze of lime. Don't expect the world's, or even Ann Arbor's, best pad thai—it's slightly greasy and doesn't quite achieve that crisp caramelization you'll find at, say, Old Siam—but it's tasty and warming. The drunken noodles are more robust: broad rice ribbons seared with green pepper and tossed with a garlic-basil sauce. I splurged by adding shrimp, and got surprisingly succulent shellfish that were well worth the extra $1 (the other protein choices—beef, chicken, or tofu—are included in the price). There are several variations on the curry theme all based on the same double-rich sauce—think chilies in half-and-half. Medium spiciness seemed about right—enough to make my eyes water but not overflow. Cool off with supersweet Thai iced tea.

A takeaway experiment was mostly successful, though the veggie rolls (two for $3) turned rubbery en route. Chicken-on-a-stick satays (four for $5) had better potential, but the dipping sauce tasted like sugared peanut butter. In any case, the best way to enjoy this food is straight from the stove. Don't be put off if it seems there won't be a table; people cycle through quickly.

The owners have had so much success that they're aiming to open a second No Thai! soon at Fourth Avenue and Catherine, where Gelato di Roma lived for a short time. While the new place will have more space, I wonder if they'll be able to match the frenetic ambience of the original.

No Thai!, 1317 South University, 222–8080. Mon.–Sat. 11 a.m.–11 p.m., Sun. noon–10 p.m. ♿ Crowded but usable by the disabled; no public restrooms.



ILLUSTRATIONS JOHN COPLEY

I love to check out exotic little joints, so I was thrilled to discover **Shan-e-Punjab.** This one's a real hole in the wall, literally: a window opening onto a tiny kitchen in the back of the Foods of India grocery store on Broadway. In a nearby corner are two tables and a half dozen chairs if you want to eat on the spot, but

the setup is primarily designed for takeaway.

I was even more thrilled after my first excursion here. There is something about well-prepared Indian food that lets you taste each freshly toasted and ground spice separately and then all together, with amazing flavor potentiation—and Shan-e-Punjab has it. Aside from naan flat bread that went a little greasy-soft, the food was delicious: a delightful creamy chicken curry, a wonderfully fiery *aloo gobi* of potatoes and cauliflower in a sauce that sang with ginger and onions. It was a good value, too, with all dishes in the $7–$10 range for a pint container.

What a find! For my next try I invited a few women friends over, phoned in my order, and went to pick up our feast. A couple was working the tiny kitchen—she at the register, he two steps away, slicing up a pile of raw chicken breasts. The close proximity of all that raw chicken to my dinner did give me pause, but I handed the woman my debit card to pay. The card wouldn't swipe. She said something to him, and he stepped over, gloveless hands slick with raw-chicken cooties, grabbed my card, wiped it across his dirty apron, swiped it through the machine, and, just for good measure, wiped it across his apron again before handing the sticky card back to me.

My good-girl training left me speechless, even when he stepped back over to help pack my order. I stood there shell shocked as he bagged the mango *lassi*.

Driving home, I couldn't quite decide what to do. Hit the next Dumpster and invite everybody out to a restaurant? Casually serve my friends without telling them (and maybe say I was fasting)? I unpacked the food, and I bathed my debit card in Lysol. Twice.

My friends arrived and I came clean (someone had to). We threw all the foods into pots and let it bubble away for a good ten minutes. And we ate it (maybe they were just being good girls, too).

The *navratan korma* was glorious—its green beans, cauliflower, carrots, and other veggies simmered in a complex spice sauce contrasting perfectly with a mild vegetable *biriyani* built around long thin grains of basmati rice. We sweetened up and cooled off between hot bites with the fruity-tangy lassi. I can't say I had much appetite that night, but it was tasty.

So thanks, Shan-e-Punjab, for a good meal—but, dude, wash your hands.

Shan-e-Punjab, 1143 Broadway (inside Foods of India), 332–0055. Tues.–Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. noon–8 p.m. Closed Mon. & Disability friendly.

—Bix Engels

Send tips, quips, and comments on local restaurants to the Bix Tip Line at bixtips@comcast.net.

table talk

Ann Arbor may not have a world-class pharmaceutical firm much longer, but like New York, Chicago, and Philadelphia, we do have our own cheesecake: baker Tim Edinger is turning out what he considers the definitive **Ann Arbor–style cheesecake** at his Old World Bakery on Plaza Drive. Compared to New York–style, he says, "Ann Arbor's is lighter and creamier and has a definite and distinctive taste."

While they may be light in style and texture, Edinger's cheesecakes are formidable: some weigh four to five pounds and serve up to twelve people. At barely two pounds, the biggest Sara Lee looks positively scrawny alongside one of these local beauties. Plus, those industrial cakes have all that chemical gunk listed in the ingredients. Edinger's plain cheesecake uses only fresh dairy products—cream cheese, sour cream, and heavy whipping cream—along with eggs, sugar, and Madagascar Bourbon vanilla extract. He builds twenty-six flavors by adding real ingredients, not just flavorings—the Black Forest cheesecake contains *wisniak* cherry liqueur from Poland and Balaton cherries from Hungary.

Edinger worked at Grizzly Peak and Zingerman's Bakehouse before launching Old World in May 2005. In addition to cheesecakes, he has coffee cakes (he's just now perfecting the recipe for a new chocolate-beer coffee cake); a carrot cake made with organic carrots; and a dozen different breads. But his mainstay is that cheesecake, available at twenty-six gourmet stores, cafes, and restaurants, including Amer's Deli, Cafe Felix, Cafe Verde, Cafe Zola, Cottage Inn, Espresso Royale, Fresh Seasons Market, Mac's Acadian Seafood Shack, Mediterrano, the Quarter Bistro, and the West End Grill.

—B.E.

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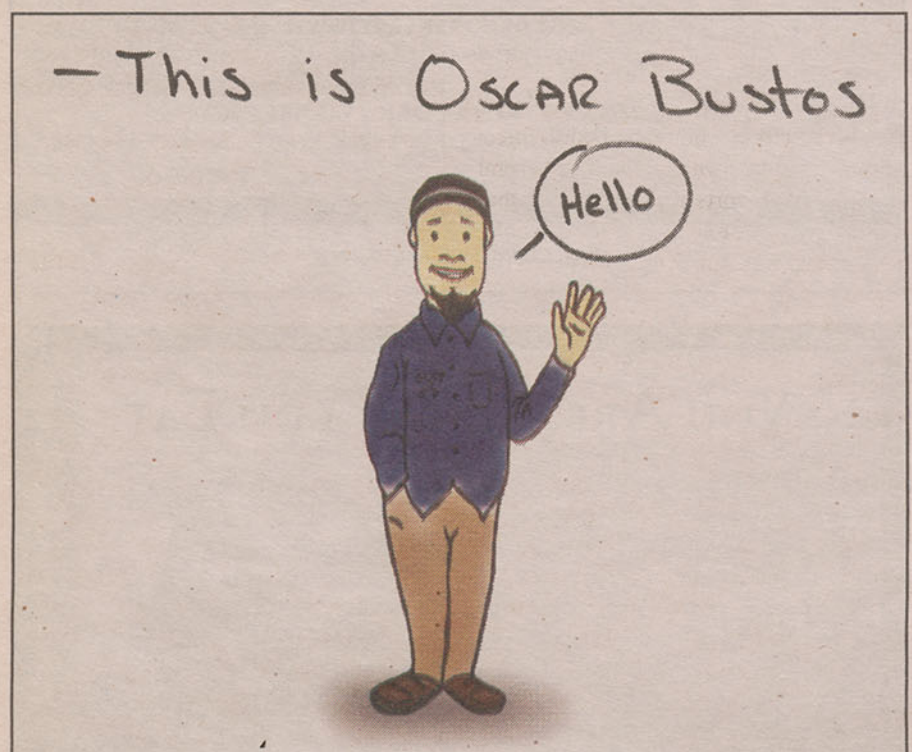

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J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Zinger

Can the neighbo

"From t day w the b Zingerman's both regards Weinzweig Ann Arbor award winni ing out of th the last deca tory. Accordi food prep sp public restr larger and n offices—and affordable h goals, Zinger the biggest would be nic

The chall the Old Four authority of trict Comm zweig, alon Grace Single tend to cha brick buildin and was one store. But th expansion w ered historic weigh their n their own de sustain what experience" tions on buil toric district.

When Z opened in 19 deli but a bit a destination "community" of them off s bakery, and a

Marketplace Changes

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Zingerman's founders Paul Saginaw and Ari Weinzweig want more room for food prep and offices—maybe even build some affordable housing. But "if you do everything that you want," they ask themselves, "will it be too big?"

Zingerman's dilemma

Can the deli grow without changing its historic neighborhood too much?

"From the very beginning, from the day we started, we were going to be the best, not the biggest," says **Zingerman's** cofounder Paul Saginaw. In both regards Saginaw and cofounder Ari Weinzweig have succeeded: their little Ann Arbor deli is now world famous and award winning—and they've been operating out of the same cramped quarters for the last decade of its twenty-five-year history. According to Saginaw, they're out of food prep space. They need a first-floor public restroom. They'd like to build a larger and nicer seminar space, add more offices—and maybe even develop a little affordable housing. True to its original goals, Zingerman's still doesn't want to be the biggest—but a little elbow room would be nice.

The challenge is the deli's location in the Old Fourth Ward, which falls under the authority of the Ann Arbor Historic District Commission. Saginaw and Weinzweig, along with managing partners Grace Singleton and Rick Strutz, don't intend to change the deli's beautiful red brick building, which dates back to 1902 and was once an old-fashioned grocery store. But the adjoining houses, where the expansion would take place, are considered historic, too. The group will have to weigh their need to grow against not only their own desire to limit that growth and sustain what they call "the Zingerman's experience" but also against the restrictions on building and renovating in a historic district.

When Zingerman's Delicatessen opened in 1982, it was considered a good deli but a bit off the beaten path. Today it's a destination in and of itself, and part of a "community" of successful businesses, six of them off site, that include a creamery, a bakery, and a training and consulting company. Together their sales exceed $30 million a year. But despite this growth and success, Zingerman's Detroit Street operations have undertaken only two relatively modest expansions—both of which illustrate the challenges of renovating historic properties.

The first, a 1986 addition that added an 800-square-foot wedge to the original 1,300 square feet of sales space, looks simple enough. But meeting city code and getting approval from the historic district commission turned out to be a long and complex process that involved, among other negotiations, buying the small orange frame house behind the deli (moved back from the corner when the original store was built) and part of a neighboring lot.

The second expansion began in 1989 when Zingerman's rented the house just south on Detroit Street to use for extra seating. The deli eventually bought and renovated the house, and in 1992 it opened Zingerman's Next Door, a stand-alone coffeehouse with seating for deli patrons and room upstairs for overflow and meetings. The cost of that project totaled more than $750,000. It would have been a lot cheaper just to tear down the house and rebuild, but that wasn't an option under the historic district commission's guidelines.

Zingerman's owners had already started kicking around ideas for this next construction project when the small house to the east of the deli at 322 East Kingsley caught fire. Smoke was sucked into the building through the kitchen's exhaust hoods, and when employees went out to see what was happening, they saw smoke coming from the back of the neighbor's house. Knowing that the eighty-six-year-old woman who lived there was homebound, a Zingerman's staff member kicked open the back door, found her lying on the kitchen floor, and helped her out. She suffered serious burns and eventually decided to put her house up for sale. A local Realtor notified Saginaw, and he and Weinzweig ended up buying the house and its 5,000-square-foot lot.

Now, instead of having to rent the backyard of 322 East Kingsley during construction, as they thought they might have to do to make space for the building crew, Saginaw and Weinzweig have an entire lot and building to work into their plans. "If we could do what we wanted," Saginaw says, "we'd want to remove the orange house and 322 East Kingsley and build new."

According to Saginaw, an independent engineering firm has concluded that the burned house is beyond reasonable repair and has recommended that it be torn down. But the simple single-story house, while no beauty, appears to have originated sometime between 1894 and 1916 and thus is a historically "significant" building. "Zingerman's will have to bring in proof that the building is completely beyond repair," explains city historic preservation coordinator Jill Thacher, adding that getting permission to tear down any historic building "is an uphill battle, definitely." Thacher recalls one house on Fourth Street whose would-be owners submitted several independent reports that concluded that restoration wasn't economically feasible; the commission, however, disagreed. The house is currently being rehabbed by different owners.

So far, Zingerman's and the historic district commission have met in what is called a working session. "They have some concerns, as we do," says Saginaw. For the commission, the whole point is to preserve old buildings. It approves teardowns only if a building is a safety hazard, if it gets in the way of a city improvement project, or if retaining it poses an undue financial hardship to the owner. That priority certainly conflicts with what Zingerman's would ideally want to do. But Saginaw understands that both parties have common goals of keeping the area vibrant and retaining its historical character. He says the owners themselves wonder, "If you do everything that you want, will it be too big?"

In the end, Zingerman's either will be permitted to tear down the house on Kingsley or will have to work it into a new plan. Either way, Saginaw, who along with "co-owner" has been given the title "chief spiritual officer," seems to keep a healthy perspective on the coming growth, as well as the difficulties that might accompany it. However it turns out, he sees himself as fortunate, privileged, and blessed. "All the concerns are legitimate," he says, "and in

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J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Joe and Deb Kirk are opening the nature-themed art and gift gallery Emerald Dragonfly.

the end, you figure out a way to work through it."

—Stephanie Harrell

Emerald Dragonfly lands in the Tree

A venerable spot gets a much-needed update

In early February, Deb and Joe Kirk planned to have their new art gallery and gift shop, the **Emerald Dragonfly,** open by the end of the month. To meet that deadline, they'd have to remodel the former Tree resale shop on Detroit Street from the floors up and the walls out in just three weeks. It was an ambitious goal, but the vigorous middle-aged couple have plenty of experience and aren't afraid of a challenge.

Travis Cash opened the Tree in 1962 as an offshoot of the Treasure Mart, the consignment shop his wife, Demaris, and her partner, Grace Bigby, had launched just two years earlier. At the time the adjacent residential neighborhood was predominately black—and therefore, in some eyes, suspect. "I was just a girl at the time," recalls the Cashes' daughter, current Treasure Mart owner Elaine Johns. "My principal called up my mom and said, 'Dee'—everybody called her Dee—'Dee, you can't open there. That's a bad end of town. Nobody will go down there.' And it took off right away. There was nothing else like it, and people really took to it."

Treasure Mart is still going strong, but the Tree closed in 2005—the victim, says Johns, of "places like the Salvation Army and Value World reselling clothes that they got more or less for free." Johns and her husband and business partner, Carl, listed the location with Colliers, which brought them Deb and Joe Kirk. "They're delightful, absolutely delightful," said Johns. "We wanted to make sure whoever went in there was a good fit for the area. And what they have in mind is a good fit because there's nothing else like it in the area."

The Emerald Dragonfly—named for its emphasis on nature-related art and because the Kirks live on a lake—is modeled after two similar stores the owners ran in Linden, near Flint. Deb Kirk comes from a retail background—her family ran the Village Gift and Flower Shop in Dundee for thirty years—and her artsy, earth-friendly stores in Linden were as hip and cool as the area would bear.

Ann Arbor may be cooler than Linden, but it's also much more competitive, with about thirty art galleries and over sixty gift shops selling everything from California fruit baskets to Russian nesting dolls. None of that worries the Kirks. "Because Ann Arbor is known for art galleries and the [U-M] art school, we knew it would be a tough order," Joe says. "But we're going to have something for everybody."

"We've got twenty different artists lined up," says Deb. "We'll have pieces by Michael Glenn Monroe, the wildlife artist who also does children books, and pieces by Deb Keene, who carves and colors wooden feathers. Plus we're hoping to persuade the U-M art students to display their work here." A retail section will feature fair-trade items from India, Nepal, South America, Germany, and Burma, among other places. "We think we'll have the kinds of things that people in Ann Arbor will really appreciate," Deb says.

While Joe will be keeping his day job running a commercial refrigeration business, Deb, who holds undergrad and graduate degrees from EMU, will be working full time—and then some—at the Emerald Dragonfly. "We have an art teacher coming in and teaching children's art classes," says Joe, "and we're going to have classes for adults eventually. But it'll be just Debbie here to start with."

The final weeks before the store opens promised to be busy. Aided by Joe's brother Michael, a historical architect, the Kirks had already taken out old partitions, torn down walls, and ripped who knows how much carpeting from the floors. Still to be done: painting the walls, putting in maple wainscoting, installing new carpet, and nailing up drywall. It's a big job. "Noth-

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

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ing's been done to this building in the last forty years," Joe says.

The Emerald Dragonfly, 417–419 Detroit Street, (810) 444–7257. Anticipated opening end of February. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Closed Sun.

The Frame Factory moves and grows

The importance of doing it all

It was 3 p.m. on a cold winter Friday, and Kathryn Savitskie had already been up for eleven hours. Carrying sheets of glass into her new store in the former Talking Book World location on Washtenaw, the sole owner and driving force behind the **Frame Factory** looked tired, but energized. "I couldn't sleep—there was too much to do," she laughed. "And besides, I was too excited. So I was up by four and in Home Depot by six."

When Savitskie bought the business in the late fall of 1990, the Frame Factory was a small mom-and-pop operation at Packard and Hewitt. The first thing she did was move it to a higher-traffic location in Bell Arbor Commons on Carpenter just north of Packard. "Business was great from the beginning," she says. "We started with twelve hundred square feet, then doubled that in five years to twenty-four hundred square feet, and now this space is twenty-eight hundred square feet."

The space isn't just for framing. Savitskie is devoting over half the showroom space to a new line of office and home furniture. "Leather couches, dark ebony-brown tables and chairs, really cool lounge chairs," she says. "After all, if you need art, you need furniture to go with your art."

She'll also be offering classes and workshops. "We started doing it last winter and it was a big success," Savitskie says. "We'll have three on the schedule: a drawing workshop with six three-hour sessions, a class in pastels with Carolyn Weins, and a class in oils with Peggy Smith. Maybe later we'll add jewelry classes."

Unlike most competing businesses—many of which don't cut their frames on site or even stock the frames, just samples—the Frame Factory does everything in house. "The name says it all," says Savitskie. "It's what we *do*. It's what we *are*—because we do everything, and we do it all right here. To the best of my knowledge, nobody else does it all."

The advantages are obvious: "We can even do same-day service," Savitskie says. That service draws customers from as far away as Saline, Brighton, and Monroe. And they don't come just come to have their art posters framed. "We've done all sorts of stuff," Savitskie says. "Needlework, christening gowns, kimonos, dental instruments, a parrot headpiece from Peru, marble tablets from China, sports jerseys—*tons* of sports jerseys—boxing gloves autographed by Muhammad Ali, even a snake's skin."

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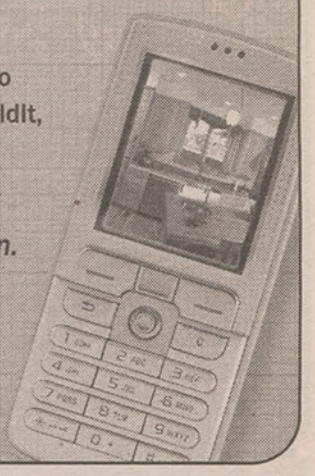

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Marketplace Changes *continued*

St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. "For example, we did a job for St. Joe's for their new physicians' lounge," Savitskie says. "It was made up of artifacts going back to when the hospital opened—doctors' bags and instruments and the like—and we framed them in two acrylic boxes, eight by fifteen by twenty, that were suspended out from the wall. It looked really neat when it was done."

As Savitskie talks about the new store, two guys are banging around in the back room. "That's Darryl and Larry Carr," Savitskie says. "They're like the *Tool Time* or *Car Talk* guys. There's no tool they don't know and no machine they can't fix. Right now they're reassembling our pneumatic underpinning machine—that's the machine that shoots V-shaped nails to join the corners of the frame together. We've also got a three-stage pneumatic double-miter saw, two vacuum-seal presses, and a lot of other really cool machines." One machine she's particularly proud of is a "beautiful, high-tech, state-of-the-art mat cutter. It can do words, logos, anything! And it takes less space than the mat cutters we used to have. It costs sixty-four thousand dollars new—but, thankfully, ours isn't new."

With the help of what she calls her "incredible staff"—including manager Phyllis Lamirand, who has been with the business twenty-two years—Savitskie is confident of success in her new location. "The chains have a lot of turnover, but we're always here. People really respond to that. The bottom line is we really enjoy helping people creatively—we really enjoy the challenge of it."

The Frame Factory, 3540 Washtenaw, 971–1100. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Closed Sun. Additional hours by appointment.

—James Leonard

Briefly Noted

The steel girders of the new **Scio Towne Plaza** in front of Quality 16 Theaters on Jackson Road are in place, and leasing is well under way. **Expressions Design Center,** owned by Toula and Sam Georgakas, should be moving into the 7,000-square-foot west end of the L-shaped building (of which the Georgakases will be part owners) in August or September. By next fall, you'll be able to take in a flick, grab lunch at Carlyle Bar & Grill, and design a bathroom before venturing back out onto Jackson.

Expressions Design Center was Expressions in Hardware when it opened on the south side of town, and added design services later. Some time after the business moved to the old Ace Barnes Hardware building on West Stadium last spring, the Georgakases decided to simplify the name. In addition to design services, the store sells top-of-the-line bathroom and kitchen furniture, cabinetry, and lighting. It also has several aisles of state-of-the-artisanal drawer pulls and doorknobs.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Kathryn Savitskie says her Frame Factory is one of few places in town that cut their frames in house. Now in a new location on Washtenaw, the store is selling furniture, too.

The remaining 9,000 square feet at Scio Towne Plaza will be divided into smaller shops: at present, Cold Stone Creamery is a pretty sure bet, and "we're talking to two or three coffee operations and California Closets," says leasing agent Max Goldman. (If Goldman's name is familiar, it's probably because his family owned the Marti Walker dress shops here from 1945 to 1996.)

As soon as Expressions Design Center vacates the old Ace Barnes building, Goldman will turn his attention to the new development project taking place there. The shell will stay, but it will be completely gutted and renovated, Goldman says, to create the "same kind of thing that they did on the old Food and Drug Mart on Packard and Stadium," now anchored by Caribou Coffee. Goldman expects it will have one large space up front for retail and four or five smaller offices in the back, probably rented to more "service oriented" businesses.

"A lot of nice changes are happening along Stadium," Goldman says, "spurred by the city's attention to the area." The years of turmoil endured by West Stadium retailers as the city overhauled everything from streetlights to water mains is finally paying some dividends. The new brick Big George's is nearing completion, the old Lincoln-Mercury dealership has been demolished to make way for a new Fifth Third Bank, and plans have begun for the gourmet Plum Market at Maple Village, which will go into the renovated movie theater. (The construction currently taking place at Maple Village will temporarily house the businesses displaced by Plum's renovations.) All of this, as Goldman sees it, heralds a long-overdue sprucing up of the far west side.

—Sally Mitani

What do a chef, a medical student, and a church staffer have in common? They can all get clad with flair at **Uniforms & More** on Plymouth Road.

The cozy one-aisled shop appeals to workers and loungewear seekers alike. Racks of nurses' scrubs (decorated with designs ranging from NASCAR racecars to angels leaning on clouds) crowd the doorway. Lab coats and chef aprons are in the back. Owner Charlene Duguay says that a light blue scrub set with the maize-and-blue embroidered Michigan logo is a popular weekend outfit for medical wannabe customers (possibly *ER* and *Scrubs* fans). Some articles are off limits to casual shoppers, however, including a white lab coat with the U-M Hospital label. Two different client groups make a special trip to Uniforms & More for a peculiar item: a nurse's traditional stiff white

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

On Jackson Road in front of Quality 16 Theaters, Scio Towne Plaza will house Expressions Design Center—and maybe coffee and ice cream shops as well.

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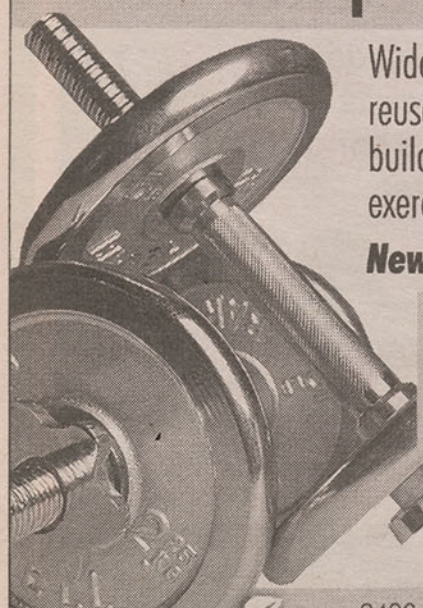

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Marketplace Changes *continued*

cap. It's donned for nursing graduations and by church members who assist the bereaved at old-fashioned funerals.

Last year, Uniforms & More downsized to a 1,000-square-foot store three doors north of its original space. Area nurses are regular customers—some want variety in their scrubs and shop for them every few weeks—but most of the store's sales are to large groups, who don't need a big showroom. U-M Hospital does special clothing orders with its own departmental logos, as does the Michigan Pain Center. Cottage Inn, among other restaurants, comes for kitchen pants, jackets, and shoes. Duguay is adding a line of special-order clothing and bags for local companies to apply their own insignia.

Duguay's own professional background is as diverse as her goods. After thirty-seven years in food service and manufacturing companies, she bought the

"Autoclavable" Klogs can be sterilized at up to 140 degrees Fahrenheit: perfect for operating rooms.

fledgling Uniforms & More in June 1999. Duguay enjoys the independence that business ownership offers, and takes satisfaction from her twice-a-year fund-raiser sales for the nonprofit Child Protection Team through U-M Hospital. "The hospital really appreciates it," she says.

Uniforms & More's proximity to North Campus is good for trade, but Duguay considers her shop a destination business, since nursing scrubs and chef aprons aren't sold off the rack in the big-box stores. The meaning of "destination" deepens when someone attempts to find the store for the first time. Tucked in the back of the Courtyard Shops, the store entrance is along a narrow driveway behind the building farthest from Plymouth Road.

The "more" in "Uniforms & More" apparently refers to the medical techie supplies hanging from the walls in the back. There is enough sharp metal (albeit wrapped in plastic packaging) to send an imaginative nonmedical person into a slight panic: stethoscopes, surgical caps, blood pressure sets, and hook-shaped medical scissors. More approachable are the KLOGS brand shoes. Duguay says some customers love the polyurethane clogs simply for their comfort, but medical professionals need the shoes for a more specific purpose: they're what the pros call "autoclavable" (sterilizable at up to 140 degrees Fahrenheit), so they can be sanitized to the level required in operating rooms.

Uniforms & More, 1709 Plymouth Road (Courtyard Shops), 623–9747. Mon.–Fri. 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Closed Sun.

—Corry Berkooz

A neighborhood landmark may well be on its way to oblivion when the Ann Arbor City Council considers a proposal for demolishing **Georgetown Mall** on Packard and permitting the construction of a new commercial development on the site. The plan submitted by the Harbor Companies, the Bloomfield Hills developers who own and manage the strip mall, passed its third and final review by the city's planning commission in January.

"It needed more than a face-lift," says architect Robb Burroughs of Hobbs & Black, who has been working on the plan for more than a year. "The best use for the site is to start it all over again."

The proposed **Georgetown Commons** calls for a 91,700-square-foot mall consisting of three buildings arranged in a T, with surrounding parking for 296 cars. Burroughs describes the concept as "Main Street focused," pedestrian oriented, and enhancing the neighborhood.

The most important news for the neighborhood, however, is that the proposed mall will not have a space big enough for a supermarket. "The plans indicate there will be space for a bank, other shops, and perhaps a pharmacy," says Alexis Marcarello, the city planner assigned to the project.

Since 1973, Georgetown's Kroger and pharmacy (originally Cunningham's, now Rite Aid) have provided convenient shopping for families living in the Packard-Eisenhower area and a biking destination for the many children and teens in the nearby subdivisions. However, with only 25,800 square feet, the Georgetown Kroger is out of step with the current concept of big-box retailing, where competitors like Wal-Mart are as big as 120,000 square feet and newer Kroger "flagship" stores around 80,000. "The typical footprint now is sixty thousand square feet for a supermarket," says Burroughs.

Current rumors have Kroger eyeing space around the interchange of Ann Arbor–Saline Road and I-94, according to Marcarello. Company representatives, at least for the time being, have taken a vow of silence. The Georgetown store's own manager, Pat Wyer, says he doesn't know anything about the store's closing—but he was only recently transferred from a Kroger in Novi.

"There is no hard-and-fast rule about closings," says Dale Hollandsworth, who

handles community relations for Kroger's Great Lakes Division. Based in Columbus, the 245-store division includes all the Krogers in Michigan and most of the ones in Ohio. Hollandsworth has been with the company for thirty years, but he'd just started his job as community relations manager on the day we talked to him.

"Kroger is always looking at locations. Where are people going? Where's commercial property in terms of population?" he says. Checking the profile of the Georgetown store on his computer, Hollandsworth notes that there are two other Krogers within two miles of the Georgetown store. Meanwhile, the Georgetown lease runs until 2012. "There will have to be some conversations there," he says.

—Linda Benson

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To the naked eye, Cranbrook Village seems to be dying (see Closings, below). Yet to Paul Wells, Cranbrook is just the right place to open **Plato's Closet.** The chain of secondhand clothing stores caters to teenagers and young adults, and Briarwood mall and Pioneer High School are only short hops away. "The store is generating interest," says Wells, who already has two other Plato's Closets, in Canton and Novi.

Unlike other secondhand stores, Plato's Closet doesn't offer fashion on consignment. Instead it buys clothes outright, favoring teen-oriented brands such as the Gap, Abercrombie & Fitch, Express, Hollister, and American Eagle. Although the store targets young customers, Wells says older shoppers also are attracted to the strictly casual, gently used bargains of recent vintage.

In mid-February, Wells was buying clothes from sellers and hoped to have the showroom stocked and running by the end of the month.

Plato's Closet, 860 West Eisenhower Parkway (Cranbrook Village), 769–8500. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. Buying hours Mon.–Sat. 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m.

—Stefan Kiesbye

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Last month's item on the sale of Great Lakes Cycling & Fitness said it was one of five bike stores in town. In fact, there are six—our list omitted **Wheels in Motion** on Washtenaw. The store "opened in the late 1980s as Washtenaw Cycle & Fitness and was an expansion of the Campus Bike & Toy store my family opened in Ann Arbor in 1933," owner Dewight Plotner pointed out in an email. "This makes Wheels in Motion the oldest family-run bicycle retailer in Ann Arbor, and we have been serving the cycling community longer than all of the other stores combined."

Wheels in Motion Cycle & Fitness, 3400 Washtenaw, 971–2121. Mon.—Wed. & Fri. 10:30 a.m.–7 p.m., Thurs. 10:30 a.m.–8 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–4 p.m. www.wheelsinmotion.us.

—John Hilton

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Closings

Last month in Follow-Up we reported that **Mysore Woodlands** was still open after five years in business. On February 14, though, a court officer oversaw the Indian take-out restaurant's eviction from its Detroit Street location. The following day, the only sign of the former tenant was an old wok left inside on the stove and a snow-covered broken freezer at the curb.

"They had certain obligations that they just weren't able to meet," says Jane Chronis of MAVDevelopment, which owns and manages the building. According to Chronis, Mysore Woodlands was almost evicted a year and a half ago but paid the rent arrears at the last minute. Since then, she says, MAV had worked with owner Usharani Ganesan to restructure some of the lease terms to help make the business work financially. They signed a new lease in October, but apparently it wasn't enough to keep the restaurant afloat.

Mysore Woodlands replaced DeLong's Bar-B-Q Pit, which occupied the small converted gas station at Detroit Street and Fifth Avenue for thirty years. As for the next tenants, Chronis said MAV—which owns, among other properties, the Market Place Building across Detroit Street—plans to evaluate potential uses for the building and the site that it's on, and then try to remodel and re-lease.

—Stephanie Harrell

A year ago, local franchise guru Taylor Bond developed a provocative radio campaign. For electronics store **Egismoz** in the Colonnade its slogan was "Big Box Stores Suck." Three months later, the store quietly closed after a year in business, another victim of the weak Michigan economy.

It seems Egismoz had a higher profile in the advertising world than it did in the local electronics market. The manager of ABC Warehouse across Eisenhower Parkway says he had never heard of it; he pays attention to those big-box stores known as Sears and Best Buy.

But Egismoz—which sold deeply discounted and often discontinued electronics—didn't completely die: it moved to Florida and to eBay. "Our sales in Michigan were very good in season—for back-to-school and for Christmas—but the Florida store was busy all of the time," says Bond, forty-five. "The Michigan economy is the toughest I've ever seen it. No one knows what's going to happen and when, so people are spending only when they have to."

Bond remains president of Egismoz's parent company, Ann Arbor–based Children's Orchard, Inc. The company's namesake kids' clothing resale chain has ninety franchises in twenty-five states, and Bond—a franchising veteran who started his career in the 1980s at Domino's—is always on the lookout for the next big thing. This year, he says, it could be Newcomers

Welcome Service, a local business that began in 1960 and delivers welcome packets of information and coupons to people who have just moved to town; Children's Orchard bought it from longtime owner Gretchen Farah. Home businesses, says Bond, are the "hottest thing in franchising right now. No retail space or rent is required. It eliminates commuting. And you can spend more time with your family."

All a home franchise needs, says Bond, "is an Internet connection and a web application to run it." A note to all the local web developers who were laid off in the recent downturn: the franchisers need you to write code for their franchisees.

—Peggy Page

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The rustic hand-lettered sign that was taped onto the window around February 1 made the official announcement: orders for **Dinersty,** the Chinese restaurant on Liberty across from the Federal Building, were now being handled by **Panda House** in Maple Village Shopping Center. By February 2, John and Craig, employees of Oxford Property Management, were inside, taking inventory and measurements of the vacated space.

"It's an amicable separation," says Oxford property manager John Bellefleur. No new tenant is signed up yet, he says, but Oxford is currently negotiating with potential operators for a bistro-style restaurant. "It won't be high end—we don't have enough space for the Chop House—but it will be locally owned," Bellefleur promises.

Dinersty, which opened at the Liberty location in 1990, was closer to the I-want-it-hot, I-want-it-fast, I-want-it-now experience than it was to gourmet dining. Nonetheless, it did a steady business for lunches and dinners, with about 60 percent walk-in traffic and 40 percent in carryout, according to co-owner Kai Zheng, and received a couple of accolades from *Michigan Daily* polls over the years.

Kai and his brother, Jin, bought the restaurant about three years ago from family friends who retired. They have owned Panda House for nine years and also own another Panda House in Lansing.

—Linda Benson

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Sometime in May, **Pier 1 Imports** in Cranbrook Village will close its doors. The company's second store in the area, on Carpenter Road, will remain open. Asked what prompted the decision, an employee said that both stores couldn't be sustained, and that the Cranbrook store was at the end of its lease.

The closing makes seven empty storefronts at Cranbrook, among them the 78,000-square-foot anchor spot once occupied by Mervyn's. Tom Goldberg, one of Cranbrook's owners and managers, says the beleaguered mall will be redeveloped within the coming year. He hopes that once it's freshened up, new tenants can be found for what amounts to almost half the available retail space.

—Stefan Kiesbye

Follow-Up

Ten years ago this month, Marketplace Changes featured nine new businesses. Only two of them are still open: **Trackle-ments Smokery** in Kerrytown, which sells owner T. R. Durham's smoked salmon and other fish; and **New York Pizza Depot** on William, which has proven so popular that owners Domenico and Mauro Telemaco have been able to double the size of the dining room and open a second location on South University.

Indian eatery **Manali Cafe** is gone; the Blue Nile now occupies its corner spot at Fifth Avenue and Washington. **Pierre's Accessories** disappeared along with its former location, the previous version of Arborland. The other casualties are Kerrytown's **Hand-Painted by Amy; Deb's Eatery**—one of a string of diners that struggled in the former Howard Johnson's on Carpenter Road; Jackson Road antique shop **Me and the Missus; Simply Cigars** at Briarwood; and campus fleecewear shop **Get Fleeced.**

March 1997 survival rate:
22 percent

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Five years ago this month, this column told you about five retail and restaurant openings—and all five businesses are still around. Friends thought Kris Vilassakdanond and his wife, Prayoon, were crazy for moving to Ann Arbor from Hawaii, but their **Tuptim Thai Cuisine,** housed in a former Long John Silver's on Washtenaw, is doing well. On the other side of town, in Plymouth Green, Youn Song's **BeWon Korean Cuisine** has attracted a loyal clientele, including many of her fellow Koreans. The other survivors are **Sunshine Produce** on Packard, **Dollar Chain** on Carpenter Road, and **Pretzel Time** at Briarwood.

March 2002 survival rate:
100 percent

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One year ago this month, we reported eight new businesses. Three of them didn't make it to their first anniversaries: Main Street restaurant **Pepperz,** which abruptly lost its lease; **Pita Pit** on South State; and **Archangels Cafe,** a combination movie screening lounge and coffeehouse at Briarwood. Those still in business are sandwich shop **Roly Poly** on Stadium; **Cartridge World** on West Eisenhower; **Van Winkle Mattress Company** on North Main Street; office and home furniture shop **Interiors Quick** on State Circle; and **Taqueria La Fiesta,** an eastside Mexican takeout joint opened by La Fiesta Mexicana owner Michele Roman.

March 2006 survival rate:
63 percent

—Laura McReynolds

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Got a retail or restaurant change? Send email to lauram@aaobserver.com or leave voicemail at 769–3175, extension 320.

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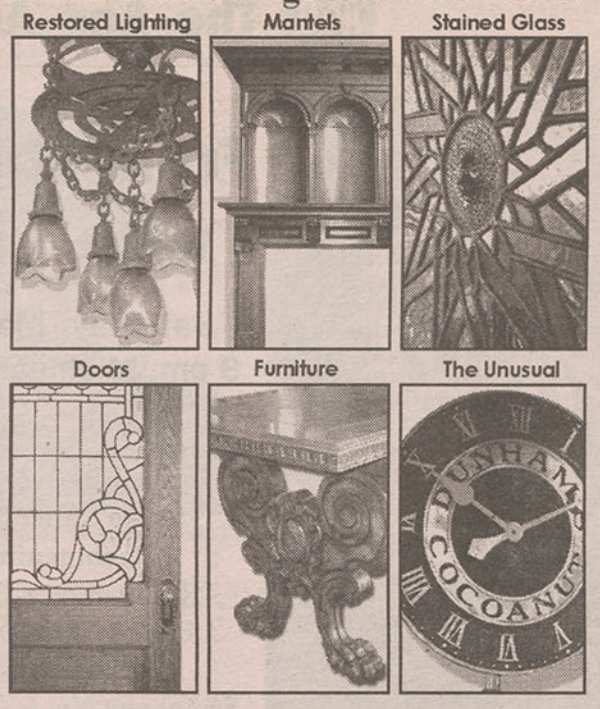

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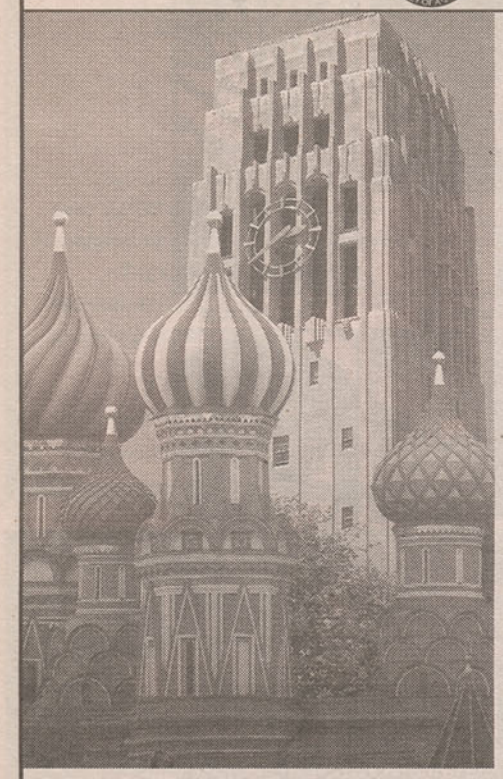

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8 pm, Michigan Theater

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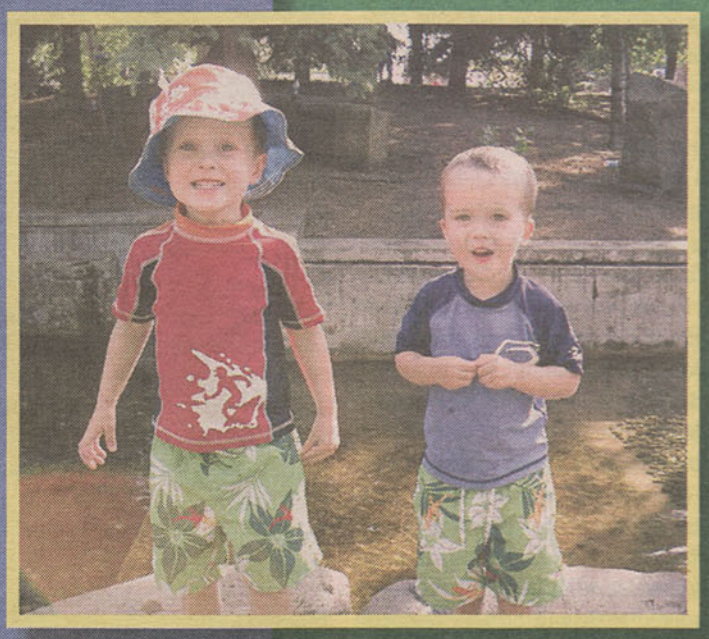

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March Events

We want to know about your event!

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By fax: 769-3375 or 769-4950.

By e-mail: hinch@aaobserver.com

After-hours drop box: right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine.

What gets in?
We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:
All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:
The entire Observer events calendar for the month is available at **arborweb: www.arborweb.com.** This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

★ *Denotes no admission charge.*

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

1 THURSDAY

★**"Bored? Games for Kids": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids age 5 & up invited to play marbles, board games, and more. *10 a.m.–noon, AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4560.*

★**Thursday Lunch Bunch: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Thursday.* A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with **"Fitness Fun,"** a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. At 11 a.m., a **Current Events** discussion group. At 1 p.m., a cultural or educational program. This week: showing of the 1988 White Star documentary ***The 1940s: Music, Memories, and Milestones.*** Also this month: Carol Hoffer discusses her experience **"Just Taking Orders: Volunteering with the Israeli Defense Force"** (March 8), photography buff Luda Ketslakh presents **"Wandering the World: A Photographic Travelogue"** (March 15), a group discussion of Tracy Kidder's ***Mountains Beyond Mountains*** (see 22 Thursday listing), and an **international Passover seder** (March 29) with kids from the JCC Early Childhood Learning Center. The day concludes at 2:15 p.m. with a meeting of the **Senior Literary Group**, a book discussion group led by U-M Dearborn English professor emeritus Sidney Warschausky. Also, at noon, a homemade dairy lunch ($3 with reservation, $4 without reservation and for nonseniors). *10 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**Senior Group: Ann Arbor Community Center.** *Every Thursday.* Presentations by community members. Today: Ann Arbor Citizens' Police Academy liaison Adele El-Ayoubi discusses **"Safety and Crime Prevention."** Also this month: fire inspector Gianna Bommarito discusses **"Safety and Fire Prevention"** (March 8), U-M nutritionist Bertha Aycock discusses **"Eating Healthy"** (March 15), and Peaceful Dragon School director Wasentha Young leads **"Fitness Is Fantastic"** (March 22; doctor's note required), a session of safe, effective exercises. *10 a.m., Ann Arbor Community Center, 625 N. Main St. Free. 662–1099.*

Alejandro Escovedo, Mar. 11

Bitch & the Exciting Conclusion, Mar. 13

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140 **Events at a Glance**

Lesley Gore, Mar. 18

Keb' Mo', Mar. 28

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** *Every Wednesday & Thursday.* Storytelling programs and craft activities for kids. *11 a.m. (Thurs.) & 7 p.m. (Wed.), Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals.** *March 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29.* Performances by area and guest artists. Today: Cajun-spiced folk from the **Troubadours of Divine Bliss.** Also this month: bluegrass, Hungarian Gypsy, jazz, and country & western by the string trio **Time for Three** (March 8), piano chamber music by the **Michigan Trio** (March 15), classical music by the U-M music school's **Performance Outreach Program** (March 22), and jazz standards by **Tiramisu** (March 29). *12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital courtyard, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.*

★**"Mammals: Life on Land": U-M Exhibit Museum.** *February 26–March 2.* Family-oriented program of hands-on crafts and experiments exploring mammals and their world. *1–4 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum Education Room (4th floor), 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–0478.*

★**"Snap! Get Digital": Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL staff shows kids in grades 6–12 how to use Adobe Photoshop. Bring your saved digital images on a thumb drive or camera card. *1–4 p.m., AADL computer lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. Space limited; preregistration required. 327–8367.*

★**"Chocolates": Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor.** Lecture-demo by representatives from the local Schakolad Chocolate Factory. All women who have recently moved or returned to the Ann Arbor–Ypsilanti area are invited. *1:30 p.m., Busch's, 2020 Green Rd. Space limited; preregistration required. Free. 426–3132.*

"The Sky Tonight"/"Blown Away: Wild World of Weather": U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. *Every Saturday & Sunday and February 26–March 2. The Sky Tonight* (11:30 a.m. Saturdays and 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. both weekend days and February 26–March 2) is an audiovisual exploration of the current night sky. *Blown Away* (12:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. both weekend days and February 26–March 2) is an audiovisual show about the sun's effect on weather conditions that includes some spectacular extreme weather footage. Followed by a brief star talk. *1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $3.75. 764–0478.*

★**"Rock Paper Scissors: Advice from an Expert": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local experts offer kids age 9 & up playing strategy tips for this venerable challenge game. *2–3 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Beatrix*Jar Project: The Neutral Zone.** The Minneapolis sound-art duo of Bianca Pettis and Jacob Aaron Roske leads a hands-on introduction to making offbeat musical instruments by short-circuiting children's toys and synthesizers. Followed by an impromptu concert, free to spectators (7 p.m., Ann Arbor Art Center) in which participants perform on their new instruments. *3–5 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214–9995.*

★**ASL Storytelling: Ann Arbor Deaf Club.** *March 1 & 15.* All invited to tell or observe stories told in American Sign Language by ASL storytellers Terri Fear, Phil King, and others. *6–7:30 p.m., Washtenaw County Library Learning Resource Center, 4135 Washtenaw. Free. 971–6059.*

"Family Purim Program": Jewish Community Center. This family-oriented program features dinner, games, and singing. All invited to come dressed as a favorite character from the Purim story. *6 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $10 (kids age 2 & up, $5; kids under 2, free). 971–0990.*

★**Ann Arbor Front Runners.** *Every Tuesday & Thursday.* Gay, lesbian, and straight runners invited to choose a distance of 3–5 miles to run with Front Runners members. *6:30 p.m., meet at Furstenberg Park, off Fuller Rd. across from Huron High School. Free. 741–1763.*

★**"Women Running Fit": Two Dogs Running.** *Every Thursday.* All women invited to run a different course, 2–6 miles, each week. Directed by a certified running coach. Maps provided. Runners who accumulate 50 miles receive a T-shirt from Running Fit. Men also invited to run. *6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty. Free. 369–2492, 569–5016.*

ACBL Bridge: Women's City Club. *Every Thursday.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate

Midori violin
Robert McDonald piano

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 4 PM ▸ Hill Auditorium

Former child prodigy and world-renowned violinist Midori returns to the Hill Auditorium stage for her first recital since 1992.

PROGRAM

Beethoven	Sonata No. 5 in F Major, Op. 24 ("Spring") (1800-01)
Rautavaara	Lost Landscapes (2005)
Hindemith	Sonata in E-flat Major, Op.11, No.1 (1918)
R. Strauss	Sonata in E-flat Major, Op. 18 (1887-88)

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 8 PM ▸ Michigan Theater

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Funded in part by the **National Dance Project of the New England Foundation for the Arts** and the **National Endowment for the Arts.**

Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM, Metro Times,** and **Michigan Chronicle/ Front Page.**

This is a NETWORK: African American Arts Advocacy Committee event.

The Songs We Love
Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 8 PM ▸ Hill Auditorium

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Media Partner **WEMU 89.1 FM, WDET 101.9 FM,** and **Michigan Chronicle/ Front Page.**

This is a NETWORK: African American Arts Advocacy Committee event.

Gilberto Gil

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 8 PM ▸ Hill Auditorium

With four decades of performing and over five million recordings sold, Gilberto Gil is a pioneer of the world music movement and continues to play a key role in modernizing Brazilian popular music and culture throughout the world. Now the Latin Grammy Awards' 2003 "Man of the Year" makes his only Midwest appearance with this intimate solo performance.

Sponsored by Pfizer

Funded in part by **U-M Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs** and the **National Endowment for the Arts.**

Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM, WDET 101.9 FM, Metro Times,** and **Michigan Radio.**

This is a NETWORK: African American Arts Advocacy Committee event.

March

128th UMS SEASON 2006 | 2007

Murray Perahia piano

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 8 PM ▸ Hill Auditorium

Regarded as one of the finest pianists on record today, treasured for his rare musical sensitivity, Murray Perahia returns for his first UMS appearance since March 2001, when he appeared with the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields as both conductor and pianist.

PROGRAM

Beethoven	Sonata No. 9 in E Major, Op. 14, No. 1
J.S. Bach	Partita No. 3 in a minor, BWV 827
Beethoven	Sonata No. 10 in G Major, Op. 14, No. 2
Brahms	Six Piano Pieces, Op. 118
Chopin	Etude No. 1 in A-flat Major, Op. 25 "Aeolian Harp"
Chopin	Etude No. 4 in c-sharp minor, Op. 10
Chopin	Ballade No. 3 in A-flat Major, Op. 47

Supported in part by **Donald L. Morelock** and **Ann and Clayton Wilhite.**

Media Partners **WGTE 91.3 FM** and **Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.**

This is a CLASSICAL KIDS CLUB concert.

A Prelude Dinner precedes this performance.

Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France

Myung-Whun Chung conductor

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 8 PM ▸ Hill Auditorium

Perhaps no orchestra is better suited to present this all-French program, which includes Ravel's *Mother Goose Suite* and Berlioz' *Symphonie fantastique*, than the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France. Their astonishing debut performance of Messiaen's "Turangalîla" Symphony in 2002, also under the direction of their Korean-born music director Myung-Whun Chung, drew rapturous comments from those in attendance, including the *Detroit News* music critic, who called it "one of the greatest performances by any orchestra I've ever witnessed in my 35 years as a professional concertgoer."

ALL-FRENCH PROGRAM

Ravel	Ma mère l'oye (Mother Goose Suite, complete ballet music) (1911)
Berlioz	Symphonie fantastique, H. 48 (1830)

Media Partners **WGTE 91.3 FM** and **Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.**

This is a CLASSICAL KIDS CLUB concert.

Rahim AlHaj oud
Souhail Kaspar percussion

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 8 PM ▸ Rackham Auditorium

Iraqi native Rahim AlHaj delicately combines traditional Iraqi *maqams* (scales and chords) with contemporary styling and influences in compositions about the experience of exile from his homeland and of new beginnings in his adopted country. This performance coincides with the recent release of his new CD on the Smithsonian Folkways label with Lebanese percussionist Souhail Kaspar, a true virtuoso whose ability to improvise and embellish the rhythmic patterns of Arabic music have led to collaborations with Sting, the Kronos Quartet, and such Arabic superstars as Fairuz and Kadim Al Sahir.

Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM** and **Arab American News.**

Canadian Brass

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 8 PM ▸ Hill Auditorium

Swing into spring with the Canadian Brass, as they perform bandstand classics, Broadway ballads, jazz favorites and Hollywood hits. The world's most famous brass quintet returns to Hill Auditorium in a tour that coincides with the release of their new CD, *High Society: Jazz Masterpieces from the Dixieland Era.*

Sponsored by M University of Michigan Health System

Supported by **The Medical Community.**

Media Partners **WRCJ 90.9 FM** and **Michigan Radio.**

Pablo Ziegler Quintet for New Tango
Claudia Acuña vocalist

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 8 PM ▸ Rackham Auditorium

The marriage between jazz and tango was virtually unheard of 30 years ago — until Pablo Ziegler burst onto the music scene, unifying the two genres and cultivating a sound that seamlessly combines sultry tango rhythms with the energetic spontaneity of jazz. He's joined for this debut performance by a bold new spark in the worldwide jazz community, the Chilean singer Claudia Acuña.

Funded in part by the **National Endowment for the Arts.**

Media Partners **WEMU 89.1 FM, WDET 101.9 FM,** and **Metro Times.**

David Krakauer's Klezmer Madness

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 8 PM ▸ Rackham Auditorium

Internationally acclaimed clarinetist David Krakauer is a natural storyteller who has long dazzled the public with his ability to shift—and meld—musical gears. Known for his mastery of myriad styles including classical chamber music, Eastern European klezmer music, the avant-garde, rock, and jazz, Krakauer lies way beyond "cross-over." He exudes an emotionally raw yet genial presence onstage, baring a tireless spirit, humor, and generosity.

Media Partner **Detroit Jewish News.**

Related Education Events

TAMANGO'S URBAN TAP

Artist Interview: Tamango and Urban Tap
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 3 PM
International Institute Room 1636
1080 South University Avenue

ORCHESTRE PHILHARMONIQUE DE RADIO FRANCE

Prelude to Classical Music Listening
Led by Rachel Lauber, conductor and educator
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 7 PM
Washtenaw Community College

For registration and fee information, call 734-973-3543.

RAHIM ALHAJ

Art In War Symposium
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, TBD
Location TBD

DIWAN: A Forum for the Arts
THURSDAY, MARCH 29 – SUNDAY, APRIL 1
Arab American National Museum
13624 Michigan Avenue • Dearborn

For more information, call 313-624-2266 or visit www.arabamericanmuseum.org.

PABLO ZIEGLER QUINTET FOR NEW TANGO

Milonga! Tango Dance Party
FRIDAY, MARCH 30, following the performance

Free with a performance ticket; $5 without a ticket.

For more information about UMS Education Events, call 734-647-6712 or email umsed@umich.edu.

University Musical Society ums **Call or Click for Tickets! 734.764.2538 | www.ums.org**
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March 2007 EVENTS
Ann Arbor District Library

All events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room

Friday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **2** — **Directors on Directing** • Purple Rose directors **Guy Sanville** and **Quintessa Gallinat** discuss the art of directing a play

Monday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **5** — **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Event**
Concert & Discussion: Marcus Belgrave & Friends

Tuesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **6** — **Bright Nights™ Community Forum: Eating Disorders & Depression** moderated by **David S. Rosen, MD**

Wednesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **7** — **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Event**
Author **Jenny White** discusses her novel ***The Sultan's Seal*** and reflects on her life as a German immigrant

Sunday 2:00 - 3:30 pm — **11** — **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Event: Sunday Edition**
Author **Dinaw Mengestu** discusses his debut novel ***The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*** and his experiences as an Ethiopian immigrant

Monday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **12** — **Peter Sparling Dance Company Sneak Preview** includes an overview of modern dance and a discussion of their new work

Tuesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **13** — **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Event • Citizens of the Year**
Ed Petykiewicz, Editor of *The Ann Arbor News*, moderates a panel of recipients of *The Ann Arbor News* Citizen of the Year Award: **Albert Berriz, Letitia Byrd, David Lutton** and **Bill Martin**

Wednesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **14** — **Panel Discussion: *Mandatory HPV Vaccinations for Michigan 6th Grade Girls?*** moderated by **Timothy R. B. Johnson, MD**, Chair & Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, UM

Friday 7:30 - 9:00 pm — **16** — **Dave Eggers,** author of ***What Is the What*** & **Valentino Achak Deng**, the novel's Lost Boy of Sudan, discuss the extraordinary background of this book

Sunday 1:00 - 3:00 pm — **18** — **Connie Olson**, of the Washtenaw County Historical Society, explores **Carnegie Libraries** in Michigan and across America

Monday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **19** — **Women's History Month Lecture: Jan Krist** discusses the art and lives of Berthe Morisot, Mary Cassatt and Georgia O'Keefe

Wednesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **21** — **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Event • Globalization and the Latino Migration to the USA** with **Cristhian Espinoza** and **Maria Rodriguez** of UM Residential College

Friday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **23** — **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Event**
Ann Arbor resident **Irene Butter** discusses her life experiences as a Holocaust survivor

Sunday 2:00 - 3:30 pm — **25** — UM Professor **Enoch Brater** discusses ***Arthur Miller's Global Theater*** in honor of the opening of the UM Arthur Miller Theatre

Monday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **26** — **Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads Book Discussion • *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Change The World***

Tuesday 7:00 - 8:30 pm — **27** — **The Adolescent Brain** • A lecture by **Richard Dopp, MD**, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow, UM

For more information call 327.4200 or visit our website at aadl.org

bridge. No partner required. *7 p.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $5. 761–6691.*

★**Motor City Metro Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.** *Every Thursday.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7–10 p.m., Go Like the Wind Montessori School, 3549 Dixboro Ln. Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance for instructions. 474–1155.*

★**Reiki: Center for Intuitive Health.** Local reiki master Ray Golden discusses this healing technique and gives minitreatments. *7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663–9724.*

★**"German Agates": Huron Hills Lapidary Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by a club member TBA. *7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 434–8517.*

★**"Lenten Series on Spiritual Transformation": St. Aidan's Episcopal Church.** *Every Tuesday and Thursday.* Speakers TBA give talks that explore such spiritual practices as *lectio divina*, the Jesus prayer, and the importance of silence. Preceded at 6:15 p.m. by a soup supper. *7 p.m., Northside Presbyterian/St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 1679 Broadway. Free. 663–5503.*

★**"Embracing Eatonville": U-M Museum of Art.** *March 1, 4, 15, & 18.* Docent-guided tours of this exhibit of photographs depicting everyday life in this Florida community, the oldest black incorporated town in the U.S. Note temporary new UMMA location. *7 p.m. (Mar. 1 & 15) & 2 p.m. (Mar. 4 & 18), UMMA Off/Site, 1301 South University. Free. 763–UMMA.*

★**"The Art of the 2007 Ann Arbor Women Artists Exhibition": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M Dearborn Art Museum Project/Alfred Berkowitz Gallery director Kenneth Gross, a juror for the exhibit (see Galleries). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"Ann Arbor Architecture: A Guide to Significant Buildings in Our Community": Concordia University.** Talk by Anita Toews, president of the American Institute of Architects Huron Valley Chapter. *7:30 p.m., Concordia Riverside Conference Room, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–7537.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *Every Thursday.* Instruction for intermediate-level dancers in a wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, followed by social dancing. Soft-soled shoes recommended. Refreshments. *7:30–9:30 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver (off Nixon). $4. 769–4324, 426–0241.*

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament": Improv Inferno. *Every Thursday and Friday.* The best local improv teams square off in a monthlong round-robin tournament. The tournament is followed on Fridays by **"The X Show,"** 45 minutes of improv by local comics TBA. Alcohol is served. *7:30 p.m., Live at PJ's, 102 First St. $5 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri.). 214–7080.*

★**Renaissance Dances: Bedlam.** *March 1, 8, & 15.* Beginning to experienced dancers invited to try English country dances, 15th- and 16th-century Italian dances, bransles, pavanes, almans, and more. Instruction provided. Wear comfy clothes and shoes. *8–11 p.m., Michigan League Room D (Mar. 1 & 8) & Henderson Room (Mar. 15). Free. 971–1809.*

Bruce Robison and Elana James: The Ark. Double bill. Robison is a Texas singer-songwriter whose rootsy alt-country songs are known for their heartfelt directness and good-natured playfulness. He's also written hit songs for other performers, including Tim McGraw's "Angry All the Time" and the Dixie Chicks' "Travelin' Soldier." James, a local favorite since her days as the virtuoso fiddler in the Hot Club of Cowtown (when she was known as Elana Fremerman), is master of a mix of styles, from big-band swing and Parisian gypsy jazz to country swing and Appalachian folk music. After the demise of her old band she did a brief but scintillating stint as a member of Bob Dylan's touring band before forming her own trio—the oddly named Continental Two—which debuted last summer as an opening act for Dylan's annual tour of minor league baseball parks. She recently released her eponymous solo debut, an eclectic collection that showcases her fetching, breezily sultry singing on an eclectic mix of songs from Duke Ellington's "I Got It Bad (and That Ain't Good)" and Eubie Blake's "Memories of You" to Dylan's "One More Night" and her own "All the World and I." *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. *March 1–4, 7–11, & 13–17.* Quintessa

The Saline Area Players perform Gypsy *at Saline Middle School Mar. 16–18.*

Gallinat directs Frank Gilroy's poignant 1964 Pulitzer Prize–winning family drama about a young soldier returning from WW II to his parents' troubled lower-middle-class Bronx home. The cast includes Patrick Michael Kenney, Grant R. Krause, and Michelle Mountain. *8 p.m. (Wed.–Sat.), 3 p.m. (Tues. & Sat. matinee), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Garage Theater, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $25 (Wed. & Thurs.), $30 (Sat. & Sun. matinees), & $35 (Fri. & Sat. eves.) in advance and at the door. 433–7673.*

"Les Liaisons Dangereuses": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. *March 1–4 & 8–11.* Wendy Wright directs local actors in Christopher Hampton's tragicomedy, an adaptation of Pierre Choderlos de Laclos's 1782 novel about 2 French aristocrats who form an unholy alliance to turn seduction into an exploitive game—which they play with wit and style until they encounter rules they cannot understand. Cast: Wendy Hiller, Elizabeth Elliott, Colleen Stano, Dan Zelazny, Brian Harcourt, Jon Elliott, Diane Larue, Melanie Wilson, Alexandra Berneis, and Isaac Ellis. *8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets $18 (students & seniors, $15; Thursday, pay what you can) in advance or at the door. 214–6600.*

B. T.: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *March 1–3.* Ann Arbor debut of this African American comic whose influences range from Richard Pryor to Robert Klein to Nipsey Russell. A frequent guest on cable TV, he is known for his charming, affable stage persona and his lopsided takes on a range of topics from sports and current events to race. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; all 8 p.m. Friday shows are nonsmoking shows. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Amazing Grace" (Michael Apted, 2006). *March 1–8.* Melodrama about British Parliament member William Wilberforce's attempts to abolish slavery. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

2 FRIDAY

★**Collie Dog Show: Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds.** *March 2–4.* Around 160 collies from all over the country compete, in rally and obedience trials, in one of the largest collie shows in the country. Food concessions. *Morning & afternoon time TBA (Mar. 2 & 3) & 8 a.m.–afternoon (Mar. 4), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free admission. (419) 836–2612.*

★**"Friday Chelsea Winter Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Friday.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 34–45 miles, to either Dexter, Grass Lake, Munith, Stockbridge, or the Waterloo Recreation Area. *9 a.m., meet at Aberdeen Bike & Fitness, 1175 S. Main, Chelsea. Free. (517) 851–8323 & (517) 285–6830.*

★**"Create Magic Beads": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids age 9 & up invited to make high-fashion jewelry with magazines and newspapers. Supplies provided. *10 a.m.–noon, AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4560.*

"United under God's Tent": Church Women United World Day of Prayer. Women of all faiths are invited to this annual interdenominational service celebrated around the world, written this year by a congregation of Paraguayan women. Preceded by fellowship and refreshments. *10 a.m., New Hope Baptist Church, 218 Chapin. Freewill offering. 665–8773.*

★**Bridge: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** *Every Monday & Friday.* All seniors invited to play bridge. No partner required. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**Bingo: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Friday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play a variety of styles of bingo. *1–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

28th Annual Lenten Fish Fry: Old St. Patrick's Church. *Every Friday, February 23–March 30.* Fried Alaskan pollack, choice of potato, salad bar, and beverage. Desserts available for a nominal additional charge. Beer & wine available for donation. Be prepared to stand in line, but the food is worth the wait. *4:30–8 p.m., Old St. Pat's parish hall, 5671 Whitmore Lake Rd. at Northfield Church (3 miles north of Ann Arbor). $7 (seniors, $6.50; children 5–11, $5.50; children 4 & under, free). 662–8141.*

★**First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society.** JCS students lead a secular Shabbat celebration that includes candle lighting, singing, and other Jewish rituals. Bring a dessert to pass. All invited. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 975–9872.*

CCHA Playoffs: U-M Ice Hockey. *March 2, 3, & (if necessary) 4.* The U-M team opens its quest for the CCHA championship with a best-of-three series against an opponent TBA. If it wins this series, the U-M is likely to host a 2nd round series, March 9–11. *7 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. $12–$17. 764–0247.*

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 996–1332.*

★**"Directors on Directing": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by veteran Purple Rose Theater director Guy Sanville and Quintessa Gallinat, who is directing the current production of *The Subject Was Roses* (see 1 Thursday). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

"Jazz and Chocolates": Chelsea Center for the Arts. Headliner is **Jazzistry,** a swing jazz ensemble, led by local saxophonist and flutist **Vincent York,** whose performance includes examples and discus-

"Is It Cause I's Black?"
Jews & the Whiteness Problem
Andrew Heinze, *Historian of American Jewish Culture*
The 17th David W. Belin Lecture in American Jewish Affairs
Heinze will discuss the question of "cultural exploitation" in America, especially as it pertains to Jewish performers, past and present.
Thursday, March 8
7:00 p.m.
202 S. Thayer St., Room 2022
Call 763 9047 for details

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PETER SPARLING DANCE CO.
March 8, 8:15 PM
PSDC FREE Open Rehearsal
Glimpse into the workings of a professional dance company rehearsal. A Q&A with the choreographers and dancers will conclude the evening.
March 12, 7:00 PM
FREE Lecture On Modern Dance with Peter Sparling
Monday, March 12, 2007, 7:00 PM
Ann Arbor District Library Main Branch
March 22, 23, 24, 8:00 PM
PSDC in Jeremy Steward's *Divine Secret.* Peter Sparling and Janet Lilly perform in *The System,* a duet choreographed by Lilly and Sparling to a text by Charles Baxter with music by Frank Pahl. Solos will be performed by Steward and Lilly. Sparling presents new work entitled *August* to the music of Satie. $15
March 25, 2:00 PM
SPECIAL Family Performance
$15 Adults, $10 age 14 and under

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Tickets on sale February 27. Reserve by phone or purchase at Dance Gallery or online.
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DIRECTED BY
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Carolyn Forché

Poetry Reading
March 19, 5:00 pm

Lecture:
"The Poetry of Witness"
March 22, 5:00 pm

The poetry reading and lecture
will both take place
at the Rackham Amphitheater
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U-M Main Campus

Other authors reading
this winter and spring:
Liesel Litzenburger
Dennis O'Driscoll
Laura Kasischke
Michael Byers
David Leavitt
James Alan McPherson

www.lsa.umich.edu/english/grad/mfa

2 FRIDAY *continued*

sion of the music that influenced early jazz and of the genre's evolution to today's wide range of jazz forms. There are two hourlong opening acts. An ensemble of CCA faculty and high school music students perform a set of music from the golden age of jazz and musical theater, including hits made famous by Billie Holiday, Frank Sinatra, and Nat King Cole, and CCA grad Jessica Oberholtzer performs a set of jazz standards. Also, a display of Detroit artist Byron Reed's bright, vibrant paintings and multimedia images of jazz musicians and fans. Chocolate desserts & treats; cash bar & beverages. Proceeds benefit CCA scholarships. *7–11 p.m., Chelsea Comfort Inn, 1645 Commerce Park Dr. (off M-52 just north of I-94). Tickets $25 (students 18 & under, $10; kids 6 & under, free) in advance and at the door. 433–2787.*

★Ann Arbor Smocking Group. Informal "sit 'n' stitch" gathering for those interested in the English art of embroidery known as smocking and in heirloom sewing. All invited. *7:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663–7867.*

"The Honeybee as an Endangered Species and the Ensuing Serious Consequences": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America. Talk by Pfeiffer Center (Spring Valley, New York) director Gunther Hauk, who has been keeping bees for 20 years. Also, on March 3 (9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.), Hauk offers a day-long workshop ($75) on biodynamic agriculture, a form of sustainable farming based on the anthroposophical teachings of Rudolf Steiner. *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner High School, 2230 Pontiac Trail. $15. Wheelchair-accessible. 662–9355.*

"26th Anniversary Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. *March 2–4.* A weekend of folk dancing to live music, with around 400 people expected to dance or just listen to the many fine musicians. *Evening program in the gym:* Nils Fredland (7:30 p.m.) and Gaye Fifer (9:40 p.m.) call **contras** to music by the Morrison Brothers. *Evening program in the cafeteria:* Bruce Hamilton calls **English country dances** (7:30 & 9:40 p.m.) to music by Karen Axelrod and Earl Gaddis. Wear clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing (no dancing in street shoes allowed). Bring a snack for the community treat table. *7:30 p.m.–1 a.m., Clague Middle School, 2616 Nixon Rd. just east of Bluett. $20 (Mar. 2), $18 (Mar. 3 afternoon), $20 (Mar. 3 evening), $16 (Mar. 4) at the door only. Weekend pass $70 at the door (youth and AACTMAD members, $55 in advance only). 677–0212.*

"20th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. *March 2–4.* Storytelling continues to enjoy a renaissance as a form of popular entertainment, and the Ark's annual festival features performances by top-notch storytellers from around the country and the state. Tonight's lineup: **Mary Hamilton** is a Kentucky storyteller whose repertoire includes Kentucky lore and folk and fairy tales from around the world, along with some myths, legends, true stories, and original fiction. Known for her vivid theatricality, she has the ability, as the *Murray Ledger and Star* puts it, to become "a bedraggled hag, an arrogant prince, a crafty handmaiden all in the space of a few minutes." **Len Cabral** is a Rhode Island storyteller who uses mime, humor, and movement to tell African, African American, and Cape Verdean stories and folklore. **Kitty Donohoe** is an Irish American roots-music singer-songwriter from Detroit who specializes in story songs. *7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $20 (evening concerts) & $10 (family concert) in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★Silent Meditation: Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers. *Every Friday.* All invited to sit in silent meditation. *8–9 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers Studio B, 2007 S. State. Free; donations accepted. Preregistration requested. 945–8602.*

★Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. *March 2, 16, & 30.* All invited to join this ongoing study group to discuss Rudolf Steiner's book *The Threshold of the Spiritual World.* Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. *8–9:30 p.m., 33 Ridgeway East, 1 block east of the Arb entrance on Geddes. Free. 662–6398.*

"Choregraphers Showcase": Terpsichore's Kitchen. *March 2 & 3.* An evening of contemporary dance works and works-in-progress by local choreographers, including **Megan Brunke, Heather Glidden, Kathy King, Aimee McDonald-Anderson, Heather Vaughn-Southard,** and **Beth Wielinski.** *8 p.m., Dance Gallery Studio, 815 Wildt. $10 at the door only. 239–4172.*

"Les Liaisons Dangereuses": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament & The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

B. T.: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. *March 2 & 16.* All singles invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. Recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by DJ John Brown. Cash bar. Smoking allowed in designated areas. Preceded at 8 p.m. by free dance lessons. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. $8 (PWP members, $6). 973–1933.*

"Swing Dance Party": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association. *March 2, 9, 16, & 23.* Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, blues, and balboa, to DJs TBA. No partner necessary. Preceded at 9 p.m. by a beginners lesson. *9:45 p.m.–midnight, danceRevolution, 603 E. William. $5 (students with ID, $3). 945–8428.*

The Paybacks: The Blind Pig. Detroit postpunk garage-rock band led by singer-guitarist (and former WCBN-FM Blastoff Girl) Wendy Case. The band was featured at the Little Steven's Underground Garage Rock Festival last August. "The Paybacks embody all that is good about Detroit rock 'n' roll—the energy, the passion, the go-for-the-throat attack," says Ben Edmonds in his *Detroit Free Press* review of the band's new CD, *Harder and Harder.* Opening acts are **The Off Ramps,** a Plymouth postpunk power-pop band, and **The Groodies,** a young all-female Chicago-area punk-rock quartet whose music, according to one description, is "too hardcore to be poppy but has too many hooks to be hardcore." *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets $8 (ages 18–20, $11) at the door only. 996–8555.*

FILMS

MTF. "Amazing Grace" (Michael Apted, 2006). See 1 Thursday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

3 SATURDAY

★"African American Heroes of Washtenaw County: Past and Present": Ann Arbor Chapter of the Links. Talks by local students. *Time TBA, David Byrd Center, 3261 Lohr Rd. Free.*

★"Sunrise Saturday Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Saturday.* Very slow-paced 22-mile ride to Dexter for breakfast. Begins at sunrise. *7:08 a.m. (Mar. 3), 6:56 a.m. (Mar. 10), 7:44 a.m. (Mar. 17), 7:32 a.m. (Mar. 24), & 7:20 a.m. (Mar. 31), meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 665–6327, 913–9851.*

★"T'ai Chi Ch'uan at the Cube." *Every Saturday & Sunday.* Local t'ai chi instructor Chad Eisner leads a session of these slow meditative movements for beginning and advanced practitioners. *9 a.m., U-M Cube, between the Union and the SAB. Free. 930–2747.*

"Maple Sugaring: A Journey to the Sugar Bush": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. *Every Saturday & Sunday, February 24–March 25.* Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck discusses the history of maple sugaring and leads a hike to a stand of maple trees to see how they are tapped, followed by a trip to an evaporator to learn how sap is turned into syrup. Also, a pancake and sausage breakfast, 9 a.m.–2 p.m. *10 & 11 a.m. and noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $2 ($5.50 includes breakfast). Preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: $4/day, $20/year ($12 for seniors age 62 & over). 426–8211.*

★"Coneheads: Arb Ramble": U-M Nichols Arboretum. Local naturalist Robert Ayotte leads a hike through the Arb and discusses winter evergreens. *9:30 a.m., meet at the Reader Center, 1610 Washington Heights. Free. Preregistration required. 647–7600.*

★Winter Democratic Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Saturday.* 20-mile ride (or longer) at a pace and to a destination chosen by the assembled riders. *Note:* Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone or change for a phone call, and snacks. *10 a.m. & 1 p.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 973–9225.*

★Walk: Grex. *Every Saturday (different locations).* All invited to join members of this local computer-conferencing group for a walk, either along trails in Bird Hills Nature Area (March 3) or from Gallup Park through Nichols Arboretum (March 10, 17, 24, & 31). *10 a.m., meet at the Newport Rd. entrance to Bird Hills Nature Area (Mar. 3) and in Gallup Park parking lot (Mar. 10, 17, 24 & 31), 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 741–9351.*

★Project Grow. *March 3, 17, & 31.* Prizewinning local gardener Royer Held offers gardening tips. To-

day's topic: **"Enjoying and Preserving Heirloom Vegetable Varieties in Your Garden."** Also this month: **"Organic Gardening"** (March 17) and **"Potato Seeds, Seed Potatoes, and Sweet Potato Slips: Growing Sweet Potatoes and Bolivian Potatoes in Michigan"** (March 31). *10 a.m.–noon, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free; donation appreciated. 996–3169.*

★**"America's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Where Do We Go from Here?": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley.** Slide-illustrated talk by Alaska Coalition Great Lakes regional director Benjamin Greuel. Discussion follows. Preceded at 9:45 a.m. by coffee & socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973–5593.*

"Sciencepalooza": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum Family Day. *March 3 & 4.* This popular monthly exhibit in the concourse area features an array of attended hands-on activity tables. This month's program, **"EGG-citing Science."** *10 a.m.–5 p.m. (Mar. 3) & noon–5 p.m. (Mar. 4), Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. $7 (members & infants, free) regular museum admission. 995–5439.*

★**Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw R/C Raceway.** *March 3 & 10.* Indoor dirt-track racing for stock and modified model trucks and buggies. Hobby equipment sale by Rider's Hobby. Spectators welcome. Food concessions. *10:30 a.m. (doors open at 8 a.m.)-midafternoon, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. (313) 565–2815.*

"26th Anniversary Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. See 2 Friday. *Gym program:* Gaye Fifer and Wayne Albright teach **intermediate waltz** to recorded music (10:30 a.m.–12:10 p.m.). Nils Fredland teaches **contras** to music by the Morrison Brothers (12:30 –2:20 p.m.). David Glick and Dave Sebolt call **contras** to music by Nutshell (2:40–4:30 p.m.). Gaye Fifer calls **contras** to music by Dr. Grangelove (7:30–9:10 p.m.). Nils Fredland calls **contras** to music by the Morrison Brothers (9:30–11:15 p.m.). *Cafeteria program:* Bruce Hamilton calls **Scottish dances** to music by Karen Axelrod and Earl Gaddis (10:30 a.m.–12:10 p.m.). Fifer and Albright teach **snoa, Norwegian, and polka** dances to music TBA (12:30–2:20 p.m.). Andreas Hayden calls **English country dances** to music by Axelrod and Gaddis (2:40–4:30 p.m.). Pat Micks leads **international folk dance** to music by Drake Meadow (7:30–9:30 p.m.). Hamilton leads **English country dances** to music by Axelrod and Gaddis (9:30–11:15 p.m.). *Music room #1:* workshops on **harmony singing** (10:30 a.m.–12:10 p.m.) and **contra dance writing** (12:30–2:20 p.m.), and an **English country music jam** (2:40–4:30 p.m.). *Music room #2:* workshops on **dance music** (10:30 a.m.–12:10 p.m.), **English country dance calling** (12:30–2:20 p.m.), and **singing** (2:40–4:30 p.m.). 10:30 a.m.–11:15 p.m.

Draw Doubles: Ann Arbor Area Disc Induced Sports Club. *Every Saturday.* All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole disc golf courses. Disc golf is a popular sport played with a Frisbee-like disc; the goal is to land the disc in a "pole hole" in the fewest shots. In draw doubles play, beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Golf discs available free from the Hudson Mills Metropark office. *11 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $4 per player; free for spectators. Vehicle entrance fees: $4/day, $20/year ($12 for seniors age 62 & over). 434–1615.*

★**Storytelling: Borders Express.** *Every Saturday.* Children's book authors TBA read from their books. Followed by signing. *11 a.m., Borders Express, Briarwood mall. Free. 669–0785.*

★**Storytime: Nicola's Books.** *Every Saturday.* Storytelling program for kids under age 7. *11 a.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Sap to Syrup: Doing It Yourself": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner discusses and demonstrates the steps of maple sugaring for those who'd like to try it at home, including tree ID, tapping, and sap harvesting and boiling. Dress for the weather. *1–2:30 p.m., County Farm Park, Platt Rd. entrance (south of Washtenaw). Free. Preregistration required. 971–6337.*

Open House: U-M Detroit Observatory. *March 3 & 18.* Docent-guided tours, about 30 minutes long, of the photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope and rotate the telescope dome. *1–4 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. $5 suggested donation (U-M students, free). 764–3482.*

"Michigan Snakes Alive": Waterloo Natural History Association. A WNHA naturalist TBA displays live snakes and discusses their habits and characteristics. *2–3:15 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd.*

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Carolyn Grawl, Advocacy & Education Director
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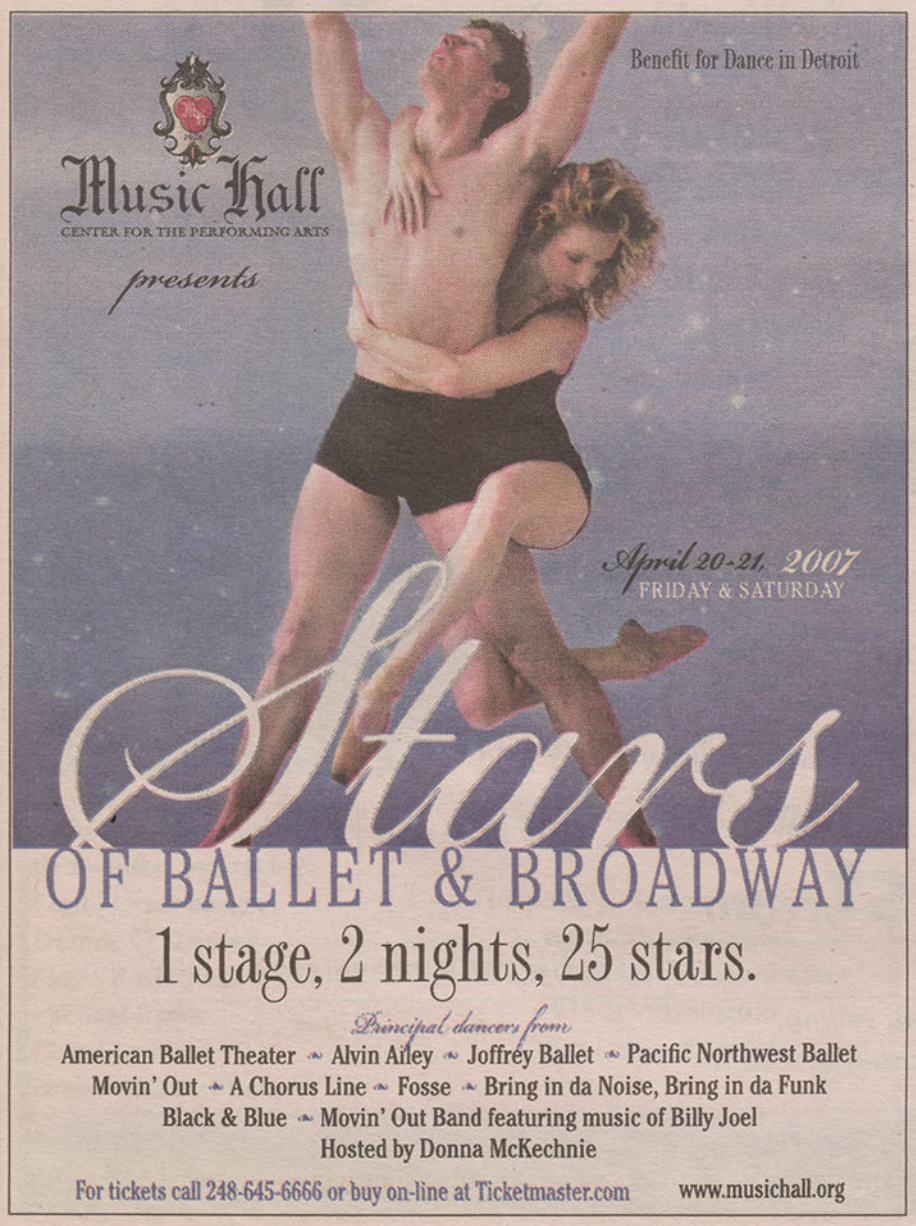
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3 SATURDAY *continued*

(west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (family, $5; WNHA members, free). Preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: $6/day, $24/year ($6/year for seniors age 65 & over). 475–3170.

★Dinosaur Tours: U-M Exhibit Museum. *Every Saturday & Sunday.* 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. *2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764–0478.*

★Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club. *Every Tuesday & Saturday.* All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. *2–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 7:30–9:30 p.m. (Tues.), location TBA. Free. 761–1115.*

★Ed Sanders: Chelsea District Library. This acclaimed post-Beat poet, fiction writer, essayist, composer, and cultural critic reads from his work and discusses his experiences with Jack Kerouac and other Beats. Still best known as a founding member of the outrageously satiric 60s folk-rock group the Fugs, Sanders is an acclaimed poet whose work combines a wonderful musicality and a cunning verbal wit with a surprisingly traditional sense of form derived from a lifelong addiction to the Greek and Latin classics, and a pervasive prophetic tone derived from such American poets as Whitman, Pound, and Ginsberg. *2–4 p.m., McKune Memorial Library, 221 S. Main, Chelsea. Free. 475–8732.*

Kids Drum Circle: Oz's Music. All kids invited to join a drumming session hosted by Oz's owner Steve Osburn. Drums provided. *3–4 p.m., Oz's Music, 1920 Packard. $10. 662–8283.*

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Ohio State. *Time TBA, Crisler Arena. $15 & $22. 764–0247.*

★In Good Company African American Book Club: Nicola's Books. All invited to join a discussion of ***The Darkest Child,*** Delores Phillips's scorching debut novel about the injustice and cruelty an African American family suffers in a 1958 Georgia town. *4 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 942–6013.*

"Yoga Trance Dance": A2 Yoga Studio. Michael Gibson-Faith and Jo Horn lead a session of easy, fluid moves combining elements of yoga and dance. *7–9 p.m., A2 Yoga, 2450 W. Stadium. $15. 929–0274.*

"Gospelfest for Reconciliation 2007." All invited to join an immense choir drawn from Detroit/Ann Arbor–area congregations and local Christian ensembles to sing joyful, energy-filled traditional black gospel, contemporary worship music, and recent compositions by some of the event directors, who include Dorgan Needom, Henry Parker, James Newby, Jean Wilson, and Geoffrey Stanton. Rehearsals 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m. (registration, 9 a.m.) are followed by dinner. Bring a sack lunch. The public is invited to listen to the evening concert for free. *7 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. 4th Ave. $30. 439–8462.*

"20th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. See 2 Friday. Tonight's lineup: **Jay O'Callahan** is an award-winning storyteller from Massachusetts who specializes in vividly detailed, almost Dickensian tales about ordinary life, war, and Irish mythology. **Jeannine Pasini Beekman** is a Louisiana storyteller known for her lively, dramatic versions of literary and traditional tales. **Barbara Schutzgruber** is an award-winning local storyteller who specializes in tales that combine narration, song, and string illustrations. 7:30 p.m.

Dexter Twirlers Square Dance Club. *March 3 & 17.* Glen Geer calls square dances for experienced dancers to recorded music. No partner necessary. Wear soft-soled shoes (not tennis shoes). *7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Church, 7610 Ann Arbor St., Dexter. $5. 433–0308.*

"Fireman's Ball": Saline Firefighters. Dancing to Top 40 music spun by an area DJ. Also, casino games that include blackjack, Texas Hold 'Em, and roulette. Preceded at 7 p.m. by socializing, with hors d'oeuvres and an open bar. Proceeds benefit the U-M Trauma Burn Center. *8 p.m.–midnight, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Tickets $25 at the gate. 429–4440.*

"Choreographer's Showcase": Terpsichore's Kitchen. See 2 Friday. 8 p.m.

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Les Liaisons Dangereuses": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. *Every Saturday.* A competition among 6 improv comics playing silly improv games, a la *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* Each comic competes on behalf of 6 audience members for such fabulous prizes as a mealtime supply of Rice-a-Roni. Ages 18 & older admitted. Alcohol is served. *8–9:30 p.m., Live at PJ's, 102 First St. Tickets $10 in advance at improvinferno.com and at the door. 214–7080.*

B. T.: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★"Milonga Picante": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *March 3 & 17.* Tango dancing to recorded music. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Michigan League Anderson Room (Mar. 3) & Vandenberg Room (Mar. 17). Free. 973–2338.*

"Serious about Salsa" Latin Dance Party: danceRevolution Dance Studio. *March 3 & 17.* High-energy salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to recorded music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., danceRevolution, 603 E. William. $5. 945–8428.*

FILMS

MTF. "Amazing Grace" (Michael Apted, 2006). See 1 Thursday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA. **U-M Center for Chinese Studies. "Chan Is Missing"** (Wayne Wang, 1982). Gritty, documentary-style, black-and-white film about 2 Chinatown cabbies searching for a missing acquaintance who has made off with their money. Cantonese & Mandarin, subtitles. No children under 12 admitted. FREE. 764–6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A, 7 p.m.

4 SUNDAY

★Falun Gong. *Every Sunday.* Local practitioners introduce this Chinese discipline, which consists of 5 exercises and meditation. *8:30–10:30 a.m., location TBA. Free. 834–4978.*

★Meditation: Karma Thegsum Choling. *Every Sunday.* All invited to sitting (9:30 a.m.) and chanting (10 a.m.) meditation. *9:30 a.m., KTC, 614 Miner (off Miller). Free. 761–7495, 678–7549.*

"Introduction to Meditation": Vajrayana Buddhist Center. *March 4 & 25.* Talks by Buddhist monk Gen Kelsang Khedrub, the resident teacher of the Vajrayana Buddhist Center in Chicago. *10–11:15 a.m., 116 E. Washington, suite 220. $10 suggested donation. (248) 444–4633.*

★Silent Vipassana Meditation: Deep Spring Center for Meditation and Spiritual Inquiry. *Every Sunday.* Meditators of all levels invited for an hour of silent meditation focusing on the breath. While the practice stems from the earliest and purest Buddhist teachings, this form of meditation requires no religious beliefs. Followed by a 30-minute dharma discussion. *10–11:30 a.m., Deep Spring Center, 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entrance on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations accepted. 477–5848.*

★Introductory Dharma Talk: Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. *Every Sunday.* Talks by **Gehlek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor, or one of Gehlek's senior students. Today's topic: **"Justice."** Also this month: **"Jealousy and Rejoicing"** (March 11), **"Peace Without Revenge"** (March 18), and **"The View of Nonviolence"** (March 25). *10–11 a.m., Jewel Heart Buddhist Center, 207 E. Washington. Free, but donations accepted. 994–3387.*

★"Heidi Attending Casals's Master Classes": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. U-M mathematics professor emeritus Wilfred Kaplan discusses the experience of his late wife Heidi, a cellist. *10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 971–8638.*

"26th Anniversary Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. See 2 Friday. *Gym program:* an **open waltz** to recorded music (10–11:35 a.m.). Gaye Fifer leads **contras** to a band TBA (11:55–1:35 p.m.). Nils Fredland leads **contras** to music by the Morrison Brothers (1:55–3:30 p.m.). *Cafeteria program:* Bruce Hamilton leads a **Scottish workshop** to music by Karen Axelrod and Earl Gaddis (10 a.m.–11:35 a.m.). Hamilton leads **English country dancing** to music by Axelrod and Gaddis (11:55 a.m.–1:35 p.m.). Hamilton leads **English country dancing** to music by Childgrove (1:55–3:30 p.m.). 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

★"Sunday Fun": Jewish Community Center Early Childhood Center. Kids age 2 & up (and their parents) invited for a storytelling program with veteran local master storyteller Laura Pershin Raynor. Also, fun Purim activities. Kids encouraged to wear their Purim costumes. *10–11 a.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–4633.*

★Ultimate Frisbee: H.A.C. Ultimate. *Every Sunday.* All invited to a pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. *10:15 a.m., Burns Park. Free. 846–9418.*

★Purim Party: Jewish Cultural Society. Family-oriented program of arts & craft activities, games, singing, dancing, and a Purim play. Treats include pizza and hamantaschen. Children encouraged to come in costume for a parade. All invited. *11*

a.m.–noon, Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free admission; nominal cost for food and games. 975–9872.

★**First Singles: First Presbyterian Church.** *Every Sunday.* A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. Today's program TBA. Also this month: Gail Oren discusses her experience **"Living in a Kibbutz in Israel"** (March 11), a potluck and planning session for future programs (March 18), and First Presbyterian member Polly Pan leads a discussion of an audiotaped lecture on **"John and Judas Iscariot"** (March 25) from the Teaching Company series *Great Figures in the New Testament*. Also, members meet for breakfast every Saturday at 10 a.m. at Cafe Marie in the Courtyard Shops (1759 Plymouth Rd.). *11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466, ext. 43.*

Contact Improv. *March 4 & 18.* All invited to try this interactive, freeform dance style that involves contact with one or more partners. It can involve improvisational lifts and other experimentations with gravity, and there's lots of close physical contact. You might find yourself upside down, so dress appropriately for easy movement. No partner required. *12:30–2:30 p.m., Jazzercise Dance Studio, 1945 South Industrial. $5–$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604–4416.*

★**Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *Every Sunday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play bridge. No partner required. *12:30–3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★**"Quakers: Information for Seekers and Friends": Ann Arbor Friends Meeting.** *March 4, 11, & 25.* Local Quakers TBA discuss the basics of Quakerism. Q&A. Today: **"Quaker History."** Also this month: **"Quaker Worship"** (March 11) and **"FAQs and Quakers Today"** (March 25). Light lunch provided. *12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. Free. Preregistration requested. 657–9819.*

★**Winter Democratic Ride: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Sunday.* The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. *1 p.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 994–5908.*

Tour: Kempf House Museum. *Every Sunday.* Guided tours of this restored 19th-century Greek Revival home, named for the family of German American musicians who occupied it at the turn of the 19th century. *1–4 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission $1 (children under age 12, free). 994–4898.*

Sunday Cooking Sessions: Kitchen Port. *March 4, 11, 18, & 25.* With local chefs and cooks. Today: Blue Nile chef Bradley Durr prepares **chocolate treats,** including spicy chocolate flourless cake, mocha sauce, and chocolate-covered espresso beans. Also this month: U-M Hospital patient food and nutrition services chef Joseph Sak fixes **paella** (March 11), Paesano's chef Isabella Nicoletti makes recipes from her new cookbook ***perbaccoisabella!*** (March 18), and Sak whips up **simple, elegant garnishes** (March 25). Coffee, nibbles, and recipes included. *1–2 p.m., Kitchen Port, 283 Zeeb Rd. $8. Preregistration recommended. 665–9188.*

"20th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. See 2 Friday. Today: a **family concert** with 3 or 4 storytellers from the Friday and Saturday shows. 1 p.m.

★**Kids Open Stage: Oz's Music Environment.** Kids of all ages and all musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. *2–3 p.m., Oz's Music Environment, 1922 Packard. Free; donations welcome. 662–8283.*

★**"Kerry Tales: March Forth with Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops.** 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and rollicking fun, with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. *2 p.m., Hollander's (Kerrytown), 407 N. Fifth Ave. Free. 769–3115.*

★**Talk & Tour: Sunward Cohousing.** *Every Sunday.* A resident gives a short talk about Sunward Cohousing, which consists of condos designed to foster an old-fashioned sense of neighborhood and to preserve open space. Followed by a tour. Also, a cohousing representative is at Nicola's Books at 7 p.m. on March 19 to talk about cohousing. *2 p.m., Sunward Cohousing, 424 Little Lake Dr. Free. 930–6425.*

"Les Liaisons Dangereuses": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**Ann Arbor–Motown Hash House Harriers.** *Every Sunday & occasional Saturdays.* The local chapter of an unorthodox running club for people who like to make a game of running. Each runner's task is to follow a trail designed to be confusing. The usual result is that the lead (i.e., fastest) runners run the longest distance, so that runners of varying abilities complete the course in nearly the same time. Each run includes at least one pit stop (with beer & pop hidden along the way) and is followed by a trip to a nearby restaurant. *3 p.m., location TBA. Free. Weekly locations available at a2h3.org.*

★**"Screamers and Barnburners": Dexter Community Band.** Bill Gourley directs this 85-member volunteer ensemble in up-tempo circus marches known as "screamers" and spirited overtures often called "barnburners." *3 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker (south of Shield from Baker Rd.), Dexter. Free. 426–2734.*

★**"Soft Slab Techniques with Lana Wilson": Yourist Pottery "Pottery Videos."** Screening of this video showing handbuilder Wilson's loose, organic technique. *4 p.m., Yourist Pottery & Design Studio, 1133 Broadway. Free. 662–4914.*

★**Purim Carnival: Temple Beth Emeth.** All invited to come in costume for a reading of the megillah (Purim story) followed by a carnival with games and prizes. Food available, including the popular triangular Purim cookies hamantaschen. Some greggors (noisemakers) provided, or bring your own. *4–6 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard Rd. Free admission; game tickets 4 for $1. 665–4744.*

"An Afternoon of Russian Chamber Music": Kerrytown Concert House. DSO principal cellist **Robert DeMaine** and DSO violinist **Gina DiBello** join local pianist **Michele Cooker** for an afternoon of Russian chamber music. The program includes Prokofiev's droll and radiant D Major Sonata, Anton Arensky's Mendelssohn-influenced Trio in D Minor, and Shostakovich's Sonata for Cello and Piano, written shortly after his wife abandoned him for infidelity. *4 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $15, $20, & $30. Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

★**Ann Arbor Morris Dancers.** *Every Sunday.* All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance said to have originated a millennium ago as a pantomime of war between Moors and Crusaders. Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., Gretchen's House barn, 2625 Traver Blvd. Free. 747–8138.*

"A Circle of Drums": Drumwomyn. *Every Sunday.* All women invited to gather for a drumming session. Bring your own drum. *7–8:30 p.m., WRAP Resource Center, 325 Braun Ct. $10. 913–9670.*

Uncle Earl: The Ark. *See review, p. 79.* Acclaimed all-female acoustic ensemble, originally from Ann Arbor and now based in Colorado, that plays traditional American folk music with a strong Appalachian base. Its repertoire also includes originals and covers of folk-based songs by contemporary songwriters, and its performances feature a mix of piercing lead vocals and glistening 3-part vocal harmonies. Founded by guitarist and mandolinist K. C. Groves, the current lineup also includes fiddle virtuoso Rayna Gellert, banjoist Abby Washburn, and guitarist and clogger Kristin Andreassen. The band has a brand-new CD, *Waterloo, Tennessee. 7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

U-M Ballroom Dancers. *Every Sunday.* Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. *8–10 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom (Mar. 4, 11 & 18) & Michigan League Ballroom (Mar. 25). $3. 763–6984.*

Dog on Wheels: Canterbury House. Led by former Ann Arborite Dan Bennett on saxophone, clarinet, and melodicas, this Brooklyn-based septet performs experimental jazz-rock in styles that range from 70s Miles Davis performed with hot electronic dance beats to Sam Rivers played in the style of Radiohead or Neil Young. The eclectic instrumentation ranges from trumpet, keyboards, and guitar to lap steel, keytar, tabla, and lots of electronics. *8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. $10 (students, $5). 764–3162.*

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. *Every Sunday.* Open mike for up-and-coming local stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., Live at PJ's, 102 S. First St. Tickets $5 in advance at improvinferno.com and at the door. 214–7080.*

"The Production Line": Improv Inferno. *Every Sunday.* A rotating cycle of new improv shows. Alcohol is served. *9 p.m., Live at PJ's, 102 S. First St. Tickets $5 in advance at improvinferno.com and at the door. 214–7080.*

The Clipse: The Blind Pig. Popular hardcore hip-hop duo from the Bronx now based in Virginia Beach. Its 2002 CD *Lord Willin'* spawned 2 hit singles, "Grindin' " and "When the Last Time," and *All Music Guide* reviewer Andy Kellman calls *Hell Hath No Fury,* its recently released 2nd CD, "a lean, furious, cold-blooded album that is vividly to-the-point." *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets $20 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticket-*

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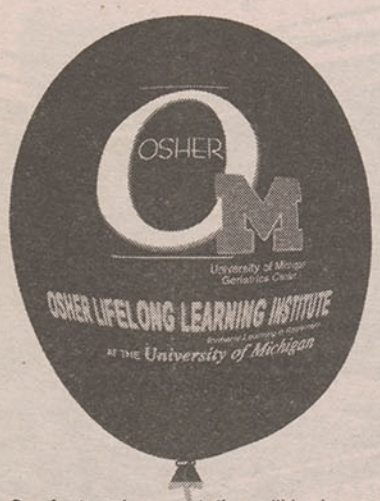

Volunteers at the University of Michigan's Turner Geriatric Clinic established the Learning in Retirement program in 1987 for people who share a love for learning. This program has enhanced understanding of the world's historic, cultural and social aspects through monthly "Distinguished Lecture Series," multi-week themed lecture series, mini-courses, study groups, and special activities. The successes of Learning in Retirement have led to recognition from the Bernard Osher Foundation in a substantial grant to enhance and expand our programming. We are celebrating by changing our name to the

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4 SUNDAY *continued*

master outlets, $25 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.

"Eye Candy": Improv Inferno. *Every Sunday.* Character-driven improv by the quintet Eye Candy. Alcohol is served. *10 p.m., Live at PJ's, 102 S. First St. Tickets $5 in advance at improvinferno.com and at the door. 214–7080.*

"Rap It Up": Improv Inferno. *Every Sunday.* Improv comedy mixed with rap. Alcohol is served. *11 p.m., Live at PJ's, 102 S. First St. $5. 214–7080.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation Pfizer Family-Friendly Film Series. "Wallace and Gromit Shorts" (Nick Park, 1989, 1993, & 1996). Screening of all 3 of the popular 30-minute claymation films featuring the absented-minded inventor and his hyperintelligent dog. FREE to kids 12 & under. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $5.50). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, 1:30 p.m. **MTF. "Amazing Grace"** (Michael Apted, 2006). See 1 Thursday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

5 MONDAY

★"Monday Chelsea Winter Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Monday.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 34–45 miles, to either the Munith or Stockbridge area. *9 a.m., meet at Aberdeen Bike & Fitness, 1175 S. Main, Chelsea. Free. (517) 851–8323 & (517) 285–6830.*

"Barn Play Time": Cobblestone Farm Association. *Every Monday.* All kids age 5 & under (with a caregiver) invited for play, music, and socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard (next to Buhr Park). $5 per child. Space limited; reservations recommended. 994–2928.*

★Monday Club: Ann Arbor Salvation Army. *Every Monday.* Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & older. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, **Bible study** and **chair exercises.** Coffee, tea, juice, and doughnuts served. Followed by lunch ($1) and socializing. *10 a.m.–noon, Salvation Army, 100 Arbana. Free. 668–8353.*

★Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus. *Every Monday.* All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. *10–11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. Free to visitors ($100 per semester membership dues for those who join). 213–3770, 663–5907.*

★Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center. *Every Monday.* Activities begin at 11 a.m. with **"Fitness Fun,"** a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar, and the **Writing Group** (1–3 p.m.). Homemade buffet luncheon ($3) available at noon. Also, today only, Debbie Gombert leads a **Purim sing-along** featuring both old favorites and new songs. All invited. *11 a.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★Knitting/Crocheting Women's Group: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Monday.* All senior women age 50 & older invited to join others for knitting/crocheting and fellowship. Bring your own supplies. *11 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★"Food for Life": Whole Foods Market. *March 5, 12, 19, & 26.* Jan Kemp, a local representative of the D.C.-based nonprofit the Cancer Project, shows how to prepare foods thought to help prevent cancer. Today: **"Fueling Up on Low-Fat Foods."** Also this month: **"Favoring Fiber"** (March 12), **"Discovering Dairy Alternatives"** (March 19), and **"Replacing Meat"** (March 26). *11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Monday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play this popular tile game. *1–2:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★Table Game Day: Ann Arbor Senior Center. All seniors age 55 & older invited to play various table games. *1–2:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★"Making Citizens from Below: The Prospects and Challenges of Decentralization in India": U-M International Institute "Citizenship at Risk" Lecture Series. Talk by Brown University Political Economy of Development Program director Patrick Heller. Part of the LS&A Citizenship Theme Year. *4–5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 763–9200.*

old-time music

Uncle Earl

Homecoming

Uncle Earl got himself born right here in Ann Arbor. He sprang fully formed and thoroughly functional from the fertile minds, nimble fingers, and soulful voices of singer-songwriters K. C. Groves and Jo Serrapere and fiddle player Tahmineh Gueramy. He tripped giddily about local venues, perplexed, at times, at his role as avatar and masthead of such plaintive, delicate music. He shuffled uncomfortably on the sidelines after gigs as fans asked, "So, which one of you has an uncle Earl?"

In fact, Uncle Earl is an old-time string band that features neither uncles nor anyone remotely named Earl. Today, Groves, now based in Colorado, is the only original member of the group. She's joined now by three fine, seasoned women—Kristin Andreassen (guitar, clogging, ukulele, and vocals), Rayna Gellert (fiddle and vocals), and Abigail Washburn (banjo and vocals)—who love this music deeply and play it with passion. In this quartet's capable hands, everything old is scrubbed fresh. With rainwater.

Heaven knows how they managed it, amid their increasingly international touring schedule, but a black crow on a clothesline tells me that Uncle Earl's newest album, *Waterloo, Tennessee* (Rounder Records), was made in about two weeks last fall at a luxurious live-in studio in the rolling hills outside of Nashville. Aside from the joy of unfettered, fully supported creativity (beautifully manifested in the four tracks I heard), the G'Earls got their first taste of actual obsequiousness: a crew of bowing, scraping interns who insisted on washing their white fluffy robes every day.

Led Zeppelin legend John Paul Jones produced *Waterloo,* which, says the Rounder press release, "laces raucous fiddle tunes and jug band blues with ballads of loss and exile, affectionate love songs, and a profound longing that can only be echoed in the strains of fiddles, banjos, mandolins, and tender harmonies." Knowing Uncle Earl, having seen them in various configs over the past couple of years, I'd wager that's an accurate description.

"One True" (as of this writing, it was up on www.myspace.com/uncleearl) is signature Uncle Earl, born of a raucous late-night jam in a hotel somewhere on the road and slowly cooked over the next year or so till done. It's one of those zippy songs about loss that the band does so well. "Bonaparte on St. Helena" is a haunting picture of Napoleon in exile, perhaps an unexpected subject for a string band, but damn, it's cool. "Last Goodbye" is more traditional and achingly lovely. Groves's "I May Never" uses wistful, simple language as she encounters life's fleeting moments, gone before they get here.

An Uncle Earl concert is a charming thing, filled with giggles, harmony, exquisite music, and a shot or two of clogging for good measure. An Uncle Earl concert in Ann Arbor, like the one at the Ark on Sunday, March 4, is a certifiable homecoming and not to be missed.

—Whitley Hill

★**"Urban Planning": U-M College of Architecture.** Talk by Columbia University political science professor Ira Katznelson. *6 p.m., Art & Architecture Auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764–1300.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus.** *Every Monday.* Beginning to advanced singers invited to join this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends. *7–9:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Free. 973–6084.*

★**Stephanie Laurens: Nicola's Books.** This *New York Times* best-selling writer discusses her new Regency-era historical romance ***The Taste of Innocence.*** Also, signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"What's New in Herbal Medicine": Evening Herb Study Group.** Talk by club members Hal and Donna Estry. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. Preregistration requested. 998–7061.*

★**Marcus Belgrave & Friends: Ann Arbor District Library.** Veteran Detroit trumpeter (and former Ray Charles Orchestra member) Belgrave discusses his career. He is joined by saxophonist-clarinetist **Charlie Gabriel,** a New Orleans native who now lives in Detroit, and **Joan Bow,** a veteran church-trained Detroit vocalist who has performed everything from soul and R&B to rock and blues, to perform an array of jazz favorites. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

Dream Group. *Every Monday.* All invited to join veteran local social worker Rebecca Mullen to discuss their dreams from Jungian, Buddhist, and other spiritual perspectives. *7:30 p.m., location TBA. Donation. 662–5925.*

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local flutist Corinne Hillebrandt. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues). 663–6297.*

★**Robert Brewer: U-M School of Music.** This Colorado State University tuba professor performs works by Vaughan Williams and Robert Spillman. Pianist is U-M staff accompanist David Gilliland. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

De Temps Antan: The Ark. *See review, p. 83.* Traditional French Canadian folk music, with propulsive foot percussion and surging call-and-response vocals, by this Quebec trio. Members are Andre Brunet (fiddle, guitar, foot percussion, voice), Eric Beaudry (guitar, mandolin, bouzouki, foot percussion, voice), and Pierre-Luc Dupuis (accordion, harmonica, jaw harp, voice). *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets*

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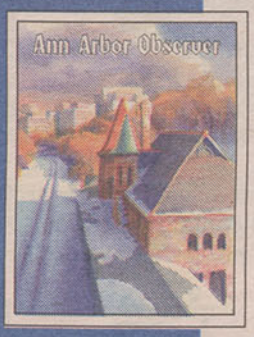

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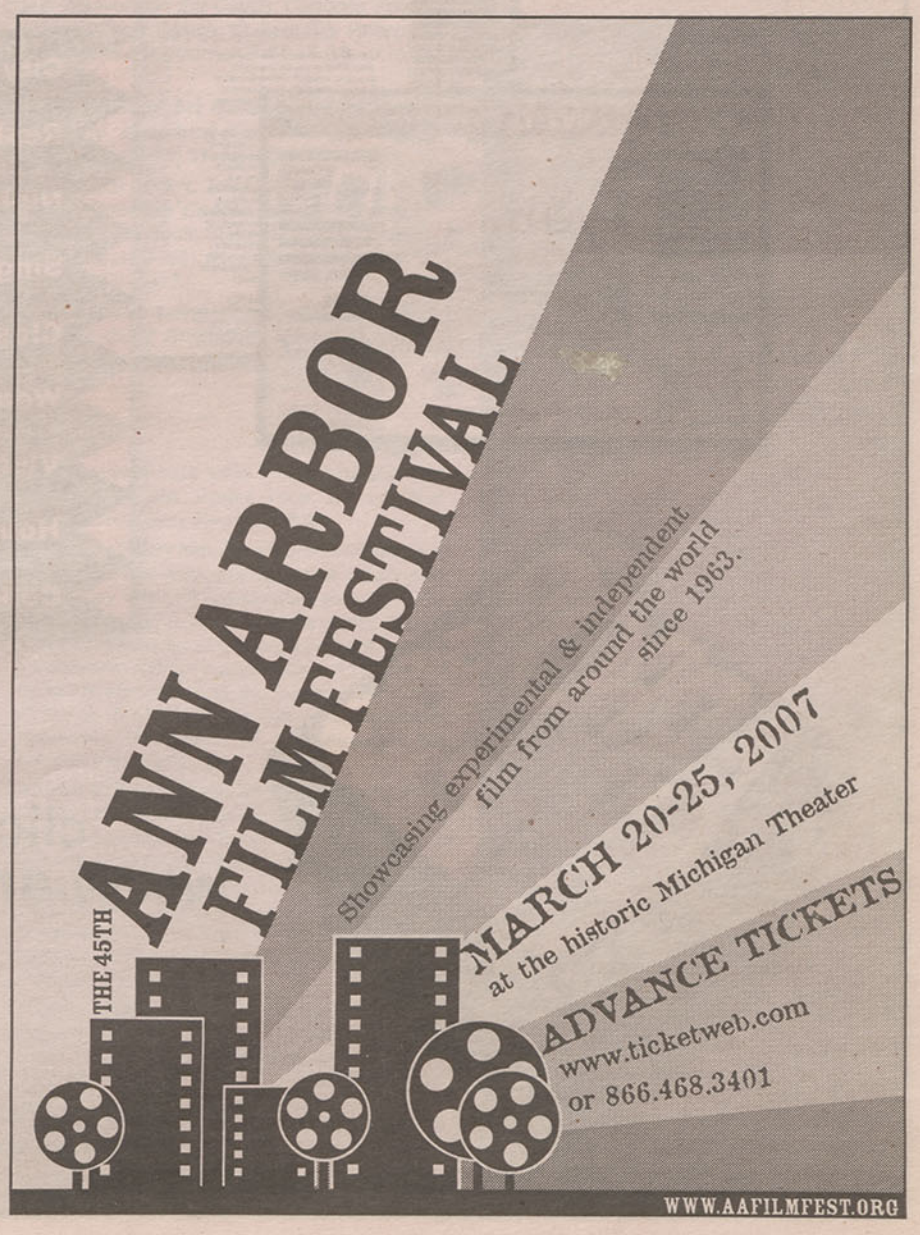

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Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Monday.* Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

FILMS

MTF. "Amazing Grace" (Michael Apted, 2006). See 1 Thursday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

6 TUESDAY

Social Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tuesday & Wednesday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play bridge. No partner required. *9:30–11:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 12:45–3:30 p.m. (Wed.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. 25¢ contribution for prizes. 769–5911.*

★Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tuesday.* All seniors age 50 & older invited to play this popular word game. *10 a.m.–noon, Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769–5911.*

★Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center. *Every Tuesday.* All seniors invited to participate in **"Let's Talk About,"** a social discussion group that focuses on issues of grandparenting. Followed by **mah-jongg** (noon–2 p.m.) and **drop-in hobby** (1–3 p.m.), a chance to share your hobbies with others. *10:30 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Institute for the Humanities. *Every Tuesday.* Today: U-M public policy and economics professor emeritus Edward Gramlich discusses **"Home Ownership: America's Dream."** Also this month: *New Yorker* cartoon editor Bob Mankoff discusses **"The Rights of Ridicule and the Morality of Laughter"** (March 13), University College London anthropology professor Charles Stewart discusses **"Dreaming of Buried Objects on a Greek Island: Icons, Emery, Antiquities"** (March 20), and U-M Dearborn art history professor Jason Weems discusses **"It's Hard to Be Down When You're Up: Aerial Vision, New Deal Architecture, and the American Dream"** (March 27). *Noon–1:30 p.m., 1022 Thayer, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 936–3518.*

★Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies. *Every Tuesday.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. Today: U-M Asian languages and cultures professor Liang Luo discusses **"The Folk and the Avant-Garde in the Making of 'Popular Propaganda' in Wartime China."** Also this month: U-M health management and policy professor Jersey Liang on **"Health and Living Arrangements among Older Chinese"** (March 13), U-M history professor Christian de Pee on **"Wards of Words: Text and Historical Space in Song Dynasty Luoyang (960–1127)"** (March 20), and University of California-Santa Cruz history professor Gail Hershatter on **"Is Necessary to Insufficient as Gender Is to Revolution? The Vexed Question of Rural Women and Early Socialism in China"** (March 27). *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6308.*

★Paolo Nutini: Liberty Borders. This 19-year-old Scottish singer-songwriter performs soulful yet peppy acoustic pop originals from his debut CD *These Streets*. One listener called Nutini a "highly relaxed, smoothed-out Joe Cocker on Ovaltine." *12:30 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

★"The Lonely Patient: How We Experience Illness": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Rhode Island Hospital HIV program director Michael Stein discusses his acclaimed, moving book about the inner life of those grappling with illness. *4–6 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

★"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch. *Every Tuesday.* All knitters invited to bring their current projects to work on and swap knitting tips. *6:30–8:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 945–3035.*

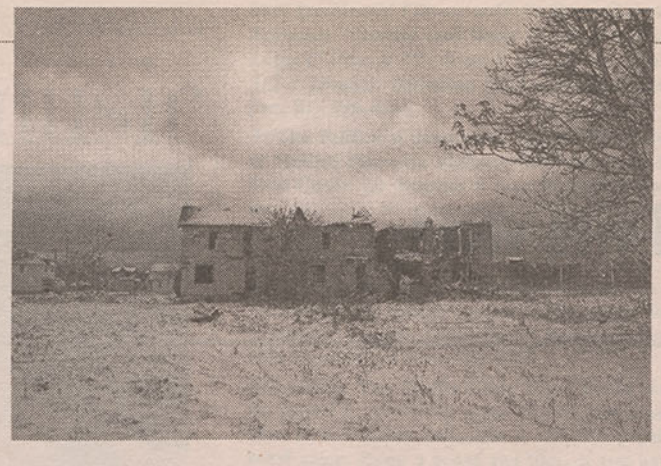
"Friends in Deed Benefit": Kitchen Port. The local husband-and-wife team of French chefs Lou and Francis Glorie whip up a sumptuous seafood dinner of mussels in cream-curry sauce, roast monkfish, salad, and a delectable creme brulee. Proceeds benefit Friends in Deed, a social service agency that helps low-income county residents. *6:30 p.m., Kitchen Port, 283 Zeeb Rd. $35. Registration required. 665–9188.*

"Lee Brothers Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse. *New York Times* food writers Matt and Ted Lee join Zingerman's Roadhouse chef Alex Young to host a dinner featuring recipes from their critically ac-

galleries

Imprint of Place

Gallery Project's look at locale



Tiny gnarled nests of black lines freckle three barn-door-sized slabs of green drywall. This aerial map of Detroit shows no highways or roads, only the city's culs-de-sac—those attempts to create homey harbors in suburbia's beige seas. Mapped on U-M architecture professor Steven Mankouche's *Cul-de-Sac City,* the scattered road-clusters instead suggest isolation and sterility, like knots of shriveled capillaries cut off from arteries and veins. The works dominate Gallery Project's multimedia show of works exploring the idea of place.

Accompanying Mankouche's large maps, a small ring-bound book depicts the same land area, with one small section per page. The pages show names for the culs-de-sac only, not for the main roads. The names float on the page at cockeyed angles mirroring their streets' orientations.

"It's funny—the names are so colonialist and agrarian," notes exhibit curator Gloria Pritschet, reading with me such names as Foxcroft, Kensington, Edinborough, Old Ranch, Meadow Valley, and Great Oak. Almost none identifies a true geographical feature or Michigan landmark. The artwork suggests that the street names, and by extension their residents, have broken any meaningful connection with their place.

More breakage appears in three large photos of abandoned and dilapidated Highland Park structures photographed by Detroit artist quartet Object Orange, a group that paints abandoned homes bright orange. The center photo (pictured) shows a garish trio of orange-painted structures stranded in a weed-stubbled snowfield. The leftward building, its windows dark voids, nevertheless retains an intactness that suggests it could be handymanned into a livable house. Its adjacent structure, with a warped roof, is halfway to ruin, and the rightward building, half collapsed, reveals dull gray interior walls decades removed from the humblest adornment. The street-cone-orange paint added to the facade suggests a combined warning to avoid the structures and visual summons to remember the lives they once contained.

The same siren orange appears in woven straps binding together penicillin-green drywall panels forming a waist-high plinth for a five-by-eighteen-inch wooden model of a narrow house. Mankouche's *Home for One Person* offers an architectural mock-up half-walled with paper. Built of frail scale-model beams, the work resembles in its incompleteness the nearby photos of collapsed houses.

The exhibit's most touching works, by recent Cranbrook M.F.A. Christina Day, gleam from a tiny shelf bearing items from an antique or thrift shop. A gold compact, a makeup case, two small metal lighters, a cigarette case, and other found objects bear shimmery photos on one of their faces. The photos, printed on transparent decals, show a lone streetlight, an old-fashioned decorated ceiling in tortoiseshell sepia-green, and a sunny tree-lined street as it might appear in a snapshot pulled from a dusty shoebox. The antique images, lovingly and carefully combined with relinquished personal items, suggest memories of a longed-for past mentally revisited so often that they have crystallized into real-world souvenirs of memory.

Imprint of Place is on display at Gallery Project, 215 South Fourth Avenue, through March 25.

—Laura Bien

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 West Liberty. *Jewelry + Object* (March 30–May 13). 994–8004.

Ann Arbor District Library. *Main library,* 343 South Fifth Avenue: *Ann Arbor Women Painters Annual Spring Show* (March 2–April 14). ***Malletts Creek Branch,*** 3090 East Eisenhower: *Working Women of Washtenaw County* (March 17–April 29). 327–4510.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, East Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall. *Graduate Student Art Show* (March 5–30). Reception 5 Monday, 4–6 p.m. 487–1268.

EMU University Art Gallery, 900 Oakwood. *Michigan Collects Ruth Weisberg* (March 12–April 21). Reception 12 Monday, 5–7 p.m. 487–0465.

Gallery 4, 212 Nickels Arcade. *Cheap Shots* (March 23–April 6). Reception 23 Friday, 7–10 p.m. 709–0602.

Gallery Project, 215 South Fourth Avenue. *Imprint of Place* (through March 25). 997–7012.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 North Fourth Avenue. *Monoprints by Esther Kirshenbaum* (March 16–April 30). 769–2999.

River Gallery, 120 North Main, Chelsea. *Works by Mary Beth Koeze and Kim Kauffman* (March 3–31). Reception 3 Saturday, 4–8 p.m. 433–0826.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 North Huron, Ypsilanti. *It Grows on Trees* (March 1–April 7). Reception 3 Saturday, 5–7 p.m.

U-M Clements Library, 909 South University. *A to Z: An Alphabet of Regional and Ethnic Culinary Traditions* (March 16–June 1). 764–2347.

U-M Duderstadt Center Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel. *Prison Creative Arts Project* (March 27–April 11). Reception 27 Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. 764–0397.

U-M Institute for the Humanities, 202 South Thayer. *On the Couch: Cartoons from the* New Yorker (March 12–April 27). Reception 14 Wednesday, 4:30–6:30 p.m. 936–3518.

U-M Museum of Art Off/Site, 1301 South University. *Imagining Eden,: Connecting Landscapes* (March 31–June 3). 763–UMMA.

U-M School of Art. *Slusser Gallery* and ***Warren Robbins Center,*** 2000 Bonisteel, and ***Work,*** 306 South State: *All Student Exhibition* (March 9–30). Receptions 9 Friday, 6–9 p.m. 763–4417.

For a complete listing of local galleries, see the 2006–2007 Ann Arbor Observer City Guide or arborweb.com.

claimed bestseller *The Lee Bros. Southern Cookbook: Stories and Recipes for Southerners and Would-Be Southerners*. Preceded at 6 p.m. by a book signing. Copies of the book available for purchase. *7 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $39 ($58 includes wine). Reservations required. 663–FOOD.*

★**"Diabetes: Eating Right for Prevention & Management": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local naturopathic physician Diana Christoff Quinn. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 994–4589.*

★**"Eating Disorders and Depression": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M pediatrics professor David Rosen presents a brief overview of the latest research on eating disorders. Followed by a panel discussion with Center for Eating Disorders director Judith Banker and clinical director Amy Pershing and U-M psychiatry department pediatric nurse practitioner Barb Blue and clinical lecturers Anita Kumar-Gill and Kendra Shih. Q&A. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Mothers and More.** *March 6 & 22.* Today: M&M member Jessica Drummond discusses **"Organizing Your Life in Partnership with Your Partner."** Also this month: U-M psychiatry clinical lecturer Maria Muzik discusses **"Postpartum Depression"** (March 22). *7–9 p.m., location TBA (Mar. 6), Gladwin Meeting Place, 4105 W. Liberty (Mar. 22). Free. 786–3875.*

"Attaining Lasting Satisfaction": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. *Every Tuesday.* Talks by **Gehlek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor, or one of Gehlek's senior students. Today's topic: on **"The Four Noble Truths: The Truth of the Cause of Suffering III."** Also this month: **"The Truth of the Cause of Suffering IV"** (March 13), **"The Four Noble Truths: The Cessation of Suffering"** (March 20), and **"The Four Noble Truths: The Path to Cessation of Suffering"** (March 27). *7–8:30 p.m., Jewel Heart Buddhist Center, 207 E. Washington. $10 (students & seniors, $5). 994–3387.*

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tuesday.* Historical and traditional English dancing. Today: callers Arlene Kindel and Neil Epstein with music by David West, Donna Baird, Tammy Corwin-Renner, and Phil Chen. Also this month: callers Don Theyken and Ray Bantle with music by Dr. Grangelove (March 13), callers Epstein and Shirley Harden with music by West, Baird, and Betsy Foote (March 20), and callers Greg Meisner, Dan Blim, and Mark Hillegonds with music by Childgrove (March 27). All dances taught. Dress comfortably and bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). *7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. $6 (students, $4; children age 13 & under, free). 665–7704.*

★**"Cooking Around the World": Nicola's Books.** Deborah Green (see Up Front, p. 9) discusses her cookbook of quick, easy, ethnically diverse recipes. All proceeds of book sales benefit hepatitis C research at U-M. Also, signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. Reading by a featured poet TBA. Also, open-mike readings, which usually draw an engaging variety of accomplished poets and entertaining monologists in verse, and a poetry slam, in which poets read one of their works in each round of a tournament-style competition for a $10 prize and the heady adrenaline rush that accompanies victory. *7–10 p.m., Club Heidelberg (above the Heidelberg restaurant), 215 N. Main. $5. For information, call Larry Francis at 426–3451.*

★**Steve Gillis: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** *Postponed from February.* This local fiction writer, author of the acclaimed novels *Walter Falls* and *The Weight of Nothing,* reads from his debut short fiction collection ***Giraffes.*** Full of humor and pathos, the stories chronicle the relationships of men and women living in various modes of familial and spiritual disquietude. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Sweet Adelines County Connection.** *Every Tuesday.* All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 40-member barbershop harmony chorus. *7–10:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($20 monthly dues for those who join). 480–8843.*

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of SPEBSQSA.** *Every Tuesday.* All male singers invited

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cua²rts on the Road in Chicago

photo courtesy of Glenn Bering

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March 2007 Events

Lecture: **Ann Arbor Architecture: A Guide to Significant Buildings in Our Community ✦**

Lecture by Anita Toews
Thursday, March 1 • 7:30 p.m.
Riverside Conference Room

Join Anita Toews as she highlights some of the significant buildings in Ann Arbor known for their architectural, historical and cultural impact, including Concordia's own Earhart Manor. Toews is a local architect and current president of the American Institute of Architects Huron Valley Chapter.

cua²rts on the Road: **Chicago**

Saturday, March 3 – Sunday, March 4 • 4 p.m.
Chapel of the Holy Trinity
Call 734.995.7316 for cost and reservations

Join us for two days in the fabulous Windy City! The weekend will include round trip motor coach transportation, dinner at the Exchequer Restaurant, a performance of the acclaimed musical *Wicked*, overnight accommodations, a visit to the Shedd Aquarium and shopping time on the Magnificent Mile and Navy Pier.
For information about *Wicked* visit www.wickedthemusical.com

Books & Coffee: **The Paradox of Choice: Why more is Less by Barry Schwartz ✦**

Discussion led by Amy Bennett, Associate Professor of Psychology
Tuesday, March 13 • 4 p.m.
Riverside Conference Room

Amy Bennett, Associate Professor of Psychology, leads a discussion of Barry Schwartz's book, *The Paradox of Choice*, which explains how we cope—or fail to cope—with the overwhelming number of choices in our lives and suggests an unlikely solution.

Performance: **People Dancing presents Spring into Action: One Night Only**

Friday, March 16 • 8 p.m.
Kreft Center Black Box Theatre
Tickets: $5–15 in advance • $7–17 at the door

People Dancing is a consortium of modern dance artists, and the style of the company is fresh and eclectic. Each performance event includes new and repertory dance works, satisfying physicality and a unique twist. The company's artists have been lauded in the press: as "uncompromisingly assertive" in their dancing, (1992), as possessing an "ethereal beauty" (2005) and for being extremely musical. The whole company performs tight and captivating productions.

Concert: **James Kibbie, organ**

Thursday, March 22 • 7:30 p.m.
Chapel of the Holy Trinity
Tickets: $5–10 in advance • $7–12 at the door

In recognition of Johann Sebastian Bach's 321st birthday organist James Kibbie presents an evening of masterworks from the various periods of Bach's life, presenting the rich variety of his genius.

Exhibition: **Senior Art Exhibitions ✦**

March 27 – April 22
Kreft Center Gallery

Senior art students present their senior portfolio exhibitions.
Call 734.995.7316 for more details.

Lecture: **Art About Art ✦**

Lecture by Richard Rubenfeld,
Professor of Art History at Eastern Michigan University
Thursday, March 29 • 7:30 p.m.
Riverside Conference Room

Rubenfeld centers his talk around the concept of "co-creation art". Learn how artists use the work of other artists for the basis of their own work and why images, styles and subject matter of the masters and earlier well known artists are studied and used to create new art.

✦ *denotes free event*

to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance for instructions. For information, call Greg Humbel at 769–1463.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Treetown Community Chorus.** *Every Tuesday.* All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perample directs. *7:30–9 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. Free ($80 per semester membership dues). 213–3770.*

Track Workout: Ann Arbor Track Club. *Every Tuesday.* Runners (and walkers) of all ages and abilities welcome. Now in their 27th year, the Track Club's workouts are a popular means for runners to train and be timed at various distances. *7:30 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), U-M indoor track, S. State at Hoover. U-M pass ($5 per day) required. 663–9740.*

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** Annual member slide and print competitions. The club also holds its annual awards banquet (price and location TBA) on March 20. *7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School, room 111, 1655 Newport Rd. Free ($15 annual dues for those who join). 327–4781.*

★**Introduction to Anthroposophy: Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** Informal monthly talk on our relationship to the cosmos as described by Rudolf Steiner. This month: Marguerite Miller discusses **"Hearing Rudolf Steiner's Voice."** *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes. Free. Wheelchair-accessible. 485–3764.*

★**"Beyond 'Body Worlds': Ethics and the Public Display of Anatomical Specimens": U-M Museum Studies "Exhibiting Controversy" Colloquium.** Talk by Robert Bosch Foundation Institute for the History of Medicine (Germany) director Robert Juette. *7:30 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 936–6678.*

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of ***La Catedral del Mar,*** Ildefonso Falcones's historical novel set in 14th-century Barcelona. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Chopin Piano Series: U-M School of Music.** *March 6, 13, 20, 24, 27, & 31.* U-M piano professor **Arthur Greene** and his students perform Chopin's entire solo piano works over the course of a 9-concert series that concludes in April. Tonight: Greene performs 4 polonaises, 2 mazurkas, a rondo, and *Three Ecossaises*. Also, Dmitri Vorobiev performs a contredanse and a waltz, Jei-Yern Ryu performs a rondo, and Ryu, Christina Thayer, Rajung Yang, and Polina Khatsko perform polonaises. Tonight's program begins with a talk by former WCC musicology lecturer Colin Roust. *7:30 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

★**German Speakers' Round Table.** *Every Tuesday.* All German speakers invited for conversation. *8 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 665–2931.*

"Firefly Funnies": The Firefly Club. Showcase of top local stand-up comics, along with some improv comedy. *8–11 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. $3. 665–9090.*

Boys of the Lough: The Ark. First local appearance in 8 years by this virtuoso Irish quintet that in the late 60s was the first British Isles band to break into the U.S. folk circuit. The band's technical brilliance and exuberant performances ignited a British Isles craze among American folk fans that still has not abated. Their repertoire embraces the musical traditions of Ireland, Scotland, the Shetland Islands, and Northumbria. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $25 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**"Triple Double Trivia": The Arena Sports Grille and Bar.** *Every Tuesday.* All invited to try a wide-ranging trivia quiz for such prizes as T-shirts, hats, and gift certificates. Bonus points awarded for "stupid human tricks" like drinking beer upside down, dancing to Michael Jackson songs, or inserting an entire fist into your mouth. *10 p.m., The Arena, 203 E. Washington. Free. 222–9999.*

Pelican: The Blind Pig. Trance-metal instrumentals by this Chicago quartet whose influences include Neurosis and Black Sabbath. Opening acts are **Russian Circles,** a Chicago progressive rock trio, and **Young Widows,** a Louisville indie rock trio. *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets $12 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster out-*

FRENCH CANADIAN

folk music

De Temps Antan

Pedal power

The traditional music of the Quebec trio De Temps Antan ("Yesteryear") is all acoustic, but you might say it has a reliable power supply. The main engine is foot percussion, known in French as *podorythmie*. It's compelling stuff! I downloaded a seventy-minute podcast of a De Temps Antan performance from a Quebec roots music website and listened to it on an iPod while walking around downtown Detroit a few weeks ago, and it kept me going through the cold rather than entering a building and breaking the mood. Nor did De Temps Antan feel out of place in an urban sonic landscape of electronic sound banging out of people's cars—their music is rhythmically intense enough to command your kinetic impulses in the way contemporary dance music does. Yet my sounds were people powered.

De Temps Antan consists of young current and former members of La Bottine Souriante, a Quebec group that appeared at the Ark and used to be featured from time to time on WCBN's late, lamented folk show. In place of that group's large collection of instruments, De Temps Antan distills the high-energy songs and dances of Quebec down to a very hard core: some combination of fiddle, accordion, a plucked stringed instrument, and the irrepressible foot percussion (executed, remarkably, while the instruments are being played). The band's repertoire is about two-thirds traditional; the rest is new compositions following traditional models.

Some instrumentals—fiddle tunes, or sets of them—are easy to imagine as accompaniments to traditional dances. But there's a second source of impulse power in De Temps Antan's music, and this one is more specific to Quebec. (Podorythmie, like some of the tunes the group carries forward, originally came to Quebec from Irish sources in eastern Canada.) A good number of De Temps Antan's songs feature close-up call-and-response vocals that date back to the work songs of the province's lumber camps. Put this high-spirited musical give-and-take together with the forward drive of the foot percussion, and you have the ingredients for a major musical rush.

It's hard to find an ensemble these days that hasn't left any traces on English-language sites on the World Wide Web, and it's noteworthy that De Temps Antan is one. This band is a local phenomenon, drawing energy from age-old community traditions, and it offers a rare local sample of a vibrant roots tradition that is perhaps less shaped than any other in North America (zydeco would be a competitor here) by external forces that work to define folk music as an aesthetic category.

De Temps Antan comes to the Ark on Monday, March 5.

—James M. Manheim

lets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.

FILMS

M-Flicks. "300" (Zack Snyder, 2006). *Today only.* Ferocious adaptation, combining live action with virtual backgrounds, of Frank Miller's graphic novel about the battle of Thermopylae where 300 Spartans fought the Persian army to the death. FREE. 763–1107. Angell Hall Auditorium A, 8:30 p.m. **MTF. "Amazing Grace"** (Michael Apted, 2006). See 1 Thursday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

7 WEDNESDAY

"Gallup Gatherings": Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Wednesday.* All seniors age 55 & older invited for socializing, nature walks, and other activities. Coffee & baked goods provided. *10–11:30 a.m., Gallup Park canoe livery (west side of Huron Pkwy.). $5. 662–9319.*

★**"Pentateuch/Torah in Its Time": Jewish Community Center.** *Every Wednesday, February 7–March 28.* Lecture series by U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies visiting scholar Lisbeth Fried, who discusses the Pentateuch in the context of other literature from the ancient Near East. *10 a.m.–noon, JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**Children's Hour: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** *Every Thursday.* Shaman Drum staff read some picture books for kids ages 2–6. *11 a.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

Gladys Beckwith: Women's City Club. Talk by this Michigan Women's Historical Center president and founder. Lunch included. *11:30 a.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $17. Reservations required. 662–3279.*

Wednesday Cooking Sessions: Kitchen Port. *March 7, 14, 21, & 28.* With local chefs and cooks. Today: chef Chris Carr demonstrates **cooking basics.** Also this month: U-M chef Pat Wright demos **"Cooking With Beer"** (March 14), local personal chef Nic Sims demonstrates how to use **"flavor profiles"** to give pork, rice, and veggies an Indian, Mediterranean, or Asian twist (March 21), and local chef Steve Clawson demos the **basics of ham and lamb** (March 28). *Noon–1 p.m., Kitchen Port, 283 Zeeb Rd. $8. Preregistration recommended. 665–9188.*

Noon Lecture Series: Kempf House Center for Local History. *Every Wednesday except March 21.* Today: Ann Arborites Lola Jones, the vice-president of the African American Museum of Washtenaw County, and Carol Gibson, an independent TV producer who has worked for *Oprah*, discuss ***Another Ann Arbor,*** their new book about the history of the Ann Arbor area black community. Also this month: U-M Health System Gifts of Art director Elaine Sims discusses **"Bringing the World of the Arts to the U-M Health System"** (March 14), and Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library archivist Donna Lehman discusses **"Gerald and Betty Ford: A Lasting Legacy"** (March 28). *Noon–1 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission $2 (Kempf House members, $1). 994–4898.*

★**"The Politics of Awareness: On the Difficulties of Making Domestic Violence Visible in Poland": U-M Center for Russian & East European Studies.** Talk by U-M anthropology professor Thomas Chivens. *Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351.*

★**Chess: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** *Every Wednesday.* All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**Scrabble: The Firefly Club.** *Every Wednesday.* All invited to join Firefly owner Susan Chastain and other local Scrabble enthusiasts to play this popular word game. Bring a board and tiles, if you have them. *5–8 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Free. 665–9090.*

★**"Shulchan Ivrit (Hebrew Table)": American Movement for Israel.** *March 7, 14, & 21.* Conversation group for all speakers of Hebrew, "whether you speak two words or speak like a *sabra* [native-born Israeli]." *5 p.m., Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Free. 769–0500.*

★**Mady Kouyate: The Neutral Zone.** This local Senegalese-born, Malian-trained griot and kora player discusses West African music. Followed at 7 p.m. by a performance by Kouyate and his ensemble, who are at the Ark on March 15 (see listing). *5 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214–9995.*

Wine Tasting: Paesano's Restaurant. *Every Wednesday.* A chance to sample 5 different Italian wines each week, in an informal and friendly setting, with a selection of appetizers. *6–7 p.m., Paesano's, 3411 Washtenaw. Space limited; reservations recommended. $20. 971–0484.*

"Artisan Salami/Charcuterie Tasting": Morgan and York. Local *maitre de fromage* Simone Jenkins hosts a tasting of traditional handmade salami and dry-cured meats and discusses how to select, store, and serve them. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Morgan & York, 1928 Packard. $35. Preregistration required. 662–0798.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wednesday.* Each 2-person team plays 2 or 3 hands against a dozen or so other pairs during the evening. Players at all levels welcome. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early to arrange for one. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills Clubhouse, 2114 Pauline at Maple. (Park on the north side of Pauline.) $3 per person. 971–7530.*

★**"Gardening for Water Quality": Project Grow.** *March 7, 14, & 21.* A series of talks blending practical gardening advice with information about broader water quality issues. Today: Leslie Science Center staff member Dave Russell discusses **"Rain Gardens."** Also, U-M landscape architecture grad students Aistis Tumas and Joel Perkovich discuss **"Green Roofs"** (March 14), and Tumas discusses **"Organic Lawn Care"** (March 21). *7–9:30 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free; donation appreciated. 996–3169.*

★**"Help, I'm Knee Deep in Clutter! Conquer the Chaos and Get Organized Once and For All": Nicola's Books.** Professional organizer Joyce Anderson discusses her guide to getting organized. Also, signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Jenny White: Ann Arbor District Library.** This Boston University social anthropology professor discusses ***The Sultan's Seal,*** her 2006 debut novel, set in 19th-century Istanbul, about the murders of 2 young Englishwomen working as governesses in royal harems. Signing. In conjunction with 2007 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 26 Monday *Mountains Beyond Mountains* listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** *Every Wednesday.* Featured writers read from their current work. Tonight: poetry reading by **Kelly Allen.** *7–9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**Linda Gregerson: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** *See review, p. 86.* This U-M English professor and award-winning poet reads from ***Magnetic North,*** a collection of poems characterized by bold formal experiments that take their inspiration from a wide range of subjects, from the Nazi occupation of Poland to the Nobel Prize in Physiology. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central Depot, 3487 Broad St., Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

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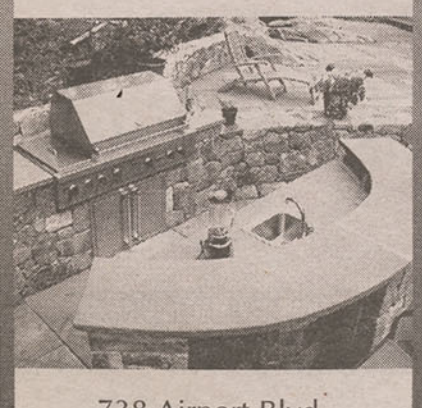

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7 WEDNESDAY *continued*

★Shamanic Journeys: Magical Education Council. *Every Wednesday.* Using special postures, participants enter a meditative state to the beat of a shaman's drum and discuss their experiences afterward. *7:30 p.m., Inter-Cooperative Council Education Center, 1522 Hill (in the carriage house behind the co-op buildings). Free. 699–8101.*

★Prescribed Burn Public Meeting: Ann Arbor Parks Department Natural Area Preservation Division. A chance to find out about the ecological burns the city conducts in city parks on weekdays throughout the spring and fall. The city holds a training session (preregistration required) at noon on March 8 for volunteers to help with the burns. *7:30–9 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 996–3266.*

★Romance Readers Group: Barnes & Noble. All invited to join a discussion of Jane Austen's classic comedy of manners ***Pride and Prejudice***. Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★"Interfaith Marriage: A Mixed Blessing?": U-M Hillel. All invited to join a group discussion. *7:30 p.m., St. Mary's Student Parish, 331 Thompson. Free. 769–0500.*

★John Charles Pierce and John Wustman: U-M School of Music. U-M voice professor Pierce and University of Illinois piano professor Wustman perform *Die Winterreise*, Schubert's celebrated song cycle of musical settings of Wilhelm Mueller's poems. The 24 songs, many bleak and despairing, feature a young lovesick man on a harrowing winter journey. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Blanche Anderson Moore Organ Recital Hall, 1100 Baits, North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

★Nico de Villiers and Jane Irwin: Kerrytown Concert House. British mezzo Irwin joins U-M student pianist de Villiers for his graduate recital. The program features 5 Schubert songs—"An die Musik," "Ganymed," "Ellens Zweiter Gesang," "Gretchen am Spinnrade," and "Lachen und Weilen"—along with Mahler's *5 Rueckert Lieder*, Britten's *A Charm of Lullabies*, Poulenc's *Banalites*, and Madeleine Dring's *Betjeman Songs*. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

Jeremy Kittel Band: The Ark. Kittel is a nationally up-and-coming fiddle virtuoso from Saline, a National Scottish Fiddle Champion and U-M music school jazz grad whose extremely eclectic repertoire ranges from Scottish, Irish, and Cape Breton fiddle tunes to jazz, bluegrass, traditional Appalachian tunes, and originals that draw on all these genres. Kittel and his band are joined tonight by fiddler **Darol Anger,** a longtime member of the David Grisman Quintet known for his inventive explorations of the possible points of contact between bluegrass, traditional American string music, and the idioms of jazz, avant-garde, and world music. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Every Wednesday.* Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

Swing Dancing: Michigan Union Arts & Programs. *Every Wednesday.* Swing dancing to recorded music. Preceded by intermediate (7:30 p.m.) and beginning (8:30 p.m.) dance lessons. No partner required. *Note:* People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive at the Union by 9 p.m. *9:30–11:30 p.m., Michigan Union room TBA. $5 (students with ID, $4) at the door. 763–3202.*

FILMS

MTF. "Amazing Grace" (Michael Apted, 2006). See 1 Thursday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

8 THURSDAY

★Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Japanese Studies. *March 8, 15, 22, & 29.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Today: Indiana University history professor emeritus George Wilson discusses **"Incidents of Change in Japan from Perry to the Meiji Restoration."** Also this month: former Asia Society (New York) performing arts, films, and lectures director Beate Sirota Gordon on **"Drafting the Women's Rights Clause for the New Japanese Constitution"** (March 15), U-M family medicine professor Masahito Jimbo on **"Perspectives of Japanese Adults on Cancer Screening: What Do We Know?"** (March 22), and Amherst College fine arts professor Samuel Morse on **"Nyoho and the Toshodaiji Atelier"** (March 29). *Noon–1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6307.*

★"New Developments at the Botanical Gardens and the Arboretum": National Farm and Garden Association. Talk by Arb director Bob Grese. *12:30 p.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 995–8441.*

★"Women at the Margins: Law and Policy": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. *March 8, 15, 22, & 29.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Today: American University visiting law professor Janie Chuang discusses **"Trafficking in Women: Female Alliance and Familial Egg Donation in Ecuador."** Also this month: Thomas Jefferson School of Law (San Diego) law professor Susan Tiefenbrun on **"Trafficking in Women: A Contemporary Form of Slavery"** (March 15), Standing Against Global Exploitation Project representatives TBA on **"Bringing an End to the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adults"** (March 22), and Los Angeles gang researcher Gini Sikes on **"Warrior or Whore: The Roles Girls Play in Street Gangs"** (March 29). *4 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

★Colloquia: U-M Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies. *March 8 & 22.* Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Today: Johns Hopkins University anthropology professor Deborah Poole discusses **"Cultural Suspects: Costume, Custom, and Excess in the Oaxacan Photographic Archive (Mexico)."** Commentator is U-M American culture and history professor Philip Deloria. Also this month: U-M history professor Rudolf Mrazek on **"Writing without Ear: The Soundly Historical in a Colonial Archive"** (March 22). Commentator is U-M history professor Rebecca Scott. *4 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 764–6305.*

★Liesel Litzenburger: U-M English Department. *See review, p. 93.* Reading by this fiction writer, a Harbor Springs native and U-M grad whose new short story collection *Now You Love Me* features interrelated tales from a child's perspective about a family about to fray apart. The work explores the same themes of emotional loss, in a Michigan setting, that Litzenburger probed in her debut novel *The Widower*. According to a *Grand Rapids Press* critic, Litzenburger "takes tremendous care with words and ideas, layering them effortlessly to create these beautiful, wounded souls." *5 p.m., Residential College Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 615–3710.*

★"Influence": U-M School of Art and Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series. Lecture by **William Pope.L**, an internationally renowned African American performance artist and creator of the Black Factory, a mobile public art experiment to provoke a rethinking of race. *5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 936–2082.*

"Stouts": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about more than 2 dozen stouts from around the world, including Irish, English oatmeal, coffee, Russian Imperial, and other specialty stouts. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. *7–9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets $25 in advance and (if available) at the door. 213–1393.*

★Ann Arbor Cage Bird Club. All invited to join club members in making foraging toys for their birds and designing bird-illustrated bingo cards and calendars. Materials provided, or bring some of your own. Bring your bird. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor Community Center, 625 N. Main. Free. 662–4582.*

"Corallo Rendez-Vous I & II": Zingerman's Delicatessen. *March 8 & 29.* Zingerman's staff discuss and offer taste samples of a variety of gourmet Corallo chocolates, from chocolate with raisins soaked in cacao liquor to chocolate-covered coffee beans. *7–8 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs kids room), 422 Detroit St. $15. Space limited; reservations required. 663–3354.*

★"Animanga Club for Teens": Ann Arbor District Library. All anime and manga fans in grades 6–12 are invited to share their enthusiasm for these Japanese art forms, do some crafts, and discuss Kogepan, Domo-Kun, Hello Kitty, and other anime characters. Free Pocky, a Japanese novelty snack popular with anime fans. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Is It 'Cause I's Black?: Jews and the Whiteness Problem": U-M Center for Judaic Studies 17th Annual Belin Lecture. Freelance journalist and cultural historian Andrew Heinze discusses the comedy of *Borat* creator Sasha Baron Cohen—especially his controversial "Ali G" persona—and the use of African American idioms by white entertainers, especially by Jewish performers past and present. *7 p.m., Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763–9047.*

The EMU theater department performs The Good Person of Setzuan *at Quirk Theater Mar. 23–25 and 29–31.*

"Facing Challenges in Our Life: Meditations on Refuge Practice": Vajrayana Buddhist Center. *March 8, 15, & 22.* Talk by Buddhist monk Gen Kelsang Khedrub, the resident teacher of the Vajrayana Buddhist Center in Chicago. Also, a guided meditation and discussion. *7–8:30 p.m., 116 E. Washington, suite 220. $10 suggested donation. (248) 444–4633.*

★Book Discussion Group: U-M Nichols Arboretum. U-M English professor Scotti Parrish and Matthaei Botanical Gardens staff member Jeffrey Plakke lead a discussion of ***A Sand County Almanac,*** Aldo Leopold's classic 1949 collection of essays on nature and ecological themes. *7–8:30 p.m., meet at the Reader Center, 1610 Washington Heights. Free. Preregistration required. 647–7600.*

★Richard Siken: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This Arizona poet, a finalist for the 2005 National Book Critics Circle Award for Poetry, reads from ***Crush,*** a collection of confessional poems on gay themes that are charged with a savage, obsessive eroticism. Poet Louise Glueck, who selected the book for the prestigious Yale Younger Poets prize, singled out its "cumulative, driving, apocalyptic power [and] purgatorial recklessness," observing that "books of this kind dream big [and] restore to poetry some of that sense of crucial moment and crucial utterance." Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★"The Shape of Water": EMU Women's History Month. University of California-Santa Barbara sociology professor **Kum-Kum Bhavnani** shows and discusses her award-winning 2006 documentary, narrated by Susan Sarandon, about the grassroots activism of individual women in Senegal, Brazil, India, and Israel. *7–9 p.m., 350 Student Center auditorium, 900 Oakwood (between Washtenaw & N. Huron River Dr.), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–1177.*

★Ann Arbor Pipes and Drums: Greenhills School Life of the Mind Lecture Series. This local bagpipe ensemble performs a program of stirring Highland music and Celtic dancing. Q&A. *7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. (off Earhart). Free. 205–4091.*

"Choral Cavalcade West": Ann Arbor Public Schools. Student choirs from Slauson and Forsythe middle schools and Pioneer High School perform a wide spectrum of choral music. Proceeds benefit middle and high school choirs. *7:30 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium. $5 per family (kids age 17 & under, $2) at the door only. 994–2198.*

★"Maps of Consciousness: Spiritual Pathways for Wholistic Evolution": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Talk by Themis Institute (Richmond, Virginia) director Julie Lapham, who currently teaches meditation at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro. Her talk draws on a range of sources, in-

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cluding anthropology, depth psychology, near-death experiences, new sciences, religious mystical and indigenous cultural traditions. *7:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★Winter Concert: Ypsilanti Community Band. Jerry Robbins directs this 70-member adult band in a program of music picked by band members. Program: the Overture to Bernstein's opera *Candide*, Tchaikovsky's explosive *1812 Overture*, Sousa's galloping "Black Horse Troop," and Alfred Reed's mastiff-ful *The Hounds of Spring*. *7:30 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 654–9414.*

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament": Improv Inferno. See 1 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

★Michigan Invitational: U-M Women's Lacrosse. *March 8–11.* Today: **U-M vs. USC.** *8 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. Free. 764–0247.*

★Faculty Showcase Concert: U-M School of Music. Performers are violinist Yehonatan Berick, bassist Diana Gannett, harpist Lynne Aspnes, organist James Kibbie, violist Yizhak Schotten, vocalists Carmen Pelton and Erik Santos, and pianists Ellen Rowe, Louis Nagel, Katherine Collier, Christian Matjias, Arthur Greene, and Evan Chambers. Program TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

Rosalie Sorrels: The Ark. Sorrels is one of the finest and most credible contemporary interpreters of American traditional song. She sings in a voice that has been described as a mixture of "wine, honey, and cayenne," and the sly sophistication of her phrasing has been described as a "fusion of Billie Holiday and Patsy Cline." Her repertoire is highlighted by a wide variety of songs based on the folklore and history of the American West, as well as several memorably sardonic originals, including the well-known "Always a Lady." *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $17.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★"Fuddy Meers": U-M Basement Arts. *March 8–10.* Hailey Agnew directs David Lindsay-Abaire's Off-Broadway comedy hit about an extreme identity crisis. The story concerns a woman with amnesia so thorough she wakes up every morning unable to remember even the previous day, so that her world is a virtual hall of funhouse mirrors—"fuddy meers," as her aphasic mother calls them—where nothing is quite as it seems. *Evening time TBA, Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764–6800.*

"Desdemona: A Play about a Handkerchief": Re-Active Productions. *March 8–11.* Suzanne Davidson directs local actors in Paula Vogel's bawdy adaptation of Shakespeare's *Othello*. *Desdemona* explores the lives of 3 female *Othello* characters in terms of sex, money, and the role of women, showing the title character as being as disreputable as Iago pretended she was—and worse. "*Desdemona* is based on the sort of conceit that a group of droll university students might come up with during a boozy night in a rathskeller after seeing Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*," says a *New York Times* critic. The cast includes Rachel Anderson, Beth Duey, and Melissa Farr. *8 p.m., Clonlara School, 1289 Jewett. Tickets $15 (students, $10) in advance or at the door. 274–8021.*

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thursday through Sunday, March 8–April 15.* John Seibert directs George Bernard Shaw's acerbic comedy about a charmingly independent Victorian woman who must choose between her husband—a genial middle-aged clergyman—and a teenage Shelleyan poet. Shaw intended the play as a sort of answer to Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, and the action turns on Candida's decision to select the weaker of the 2 men seeking her affection. The play's durable appeal lies both in the surprising inversions Shaw wrings from his hoary lovers' triangle and in his characteristic deftness in shifting the audience's sympathies, often with dizzying abruptness, from one character to another, as each in turn undercuts the other's idealistic self-delusions. Cast: Teri Clark Linden, John Lepard, Jacob Hodgson, Molly Thomas, Robert McFayden, and Martin Smith. *8 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: whatever you can afford to pay (Mar. 8), $20 (Mar. 9, 11, & 15), and $28 (Mar. 10). Mar. 16 opening night tickets: $37 includes reception. After Mar. 16: $25 (Thurs. & Sun.), $30 (Fri., Sat. matinee, & Sun.), and $35 (Sat. eve.). Discounts available for seniors & (during previews) adults under age 30. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. Half-price student rush tickets available 1 hour before showtime. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

"Les Liaisons Dangereuses": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Full Impact: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *March 8–10.* Ann Arbor debut of the team of veteran Milwaukee comic Tim Kaminski and the young Kansas City comic Steve Kramer. Their act includes music, celebrity impersonations, and lots of high-spirited improvised banter. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; all 8 p.m. Friday shows are nonsmoking shows. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

★Open Rehearsal: Peter Sparling Dance Company. U-M dance professor Peter Sparling leads members of his troupe in a rehearsal for the troupe's upcoming Home Studio Season March 22–25 (see listings). Followed by Q&A. *8:15 p.m., Dance Gallery Studio, 815 Wildt St. Free. 747–8885.*

Akron/Family: The Blind Pig. Psychedelic, jazz-inflected bluegrass quartet from Brooklyn, New York. The band has an acclaimed new CD, *Meek Warrior*, that *The Wire* reviewer Tom Ridge praises for its "dynamic combination of communal muscle and deceptively simple songwriting." Opening act is **The Silent Years,** a Detroit pop-rock band. *8:30 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 8 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

FILMS

Projectorhead. "The Prince of Tides" (Barbra Streisand, 1991). Affecting tale about an unemployed South Carolina teacher who tries to help his suicidal sister, only to begin falling for her psychiatrist. Based on the Pat Conroy novel. Nick Nolte, Barbra Streisand. FREE. 615–0445. Modern Languages lecture room 2 (812 E. Washington). 7 p.m. **MTF. "Amazing Grace"** (Michael Apted, 2006). See 1 Thursday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

9 FRIDAY

★Robot Competitions: FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Great Lakes Regional. *March 9 & 10.* Teams from 59 area high schools bring their homemade robots, ranging from gangly Rube Goldberg contraptions to sleek predatory machines, to battle each other in contests. The competition highlight comes with the exciting finals on Saturday (1–3 p.m.). March 8 practice rounds (10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.) are also open to the public. *9 a.m.–6 p.m. (Mar. 9) & 9 a.m.–5 p.m. (Mar. 10), EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt, Ypsilanti. Free. (800) 871–8326.*

★"Profiles in Citizenship: New Ways of Thinking and Doing": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts. A pair of panel discussions with former Cleveland mayor Jane Campbell, UAW secretary-treasurer Elizabeth Bunn, Publius.org founder Vincent Keenan, and other U-M alumni. Panel topics are **"Citizens in Action: The Local and Regional Contexts for Effective Engagement in Public Life"** (9 a.m.) and **"Raising Voices, Being Heard: Shaping Public Discourse for Public Action"** (10:30 a.m.). Part of the LS&A Citizenship Theme Year. *9 a.m.–noon, Alumni Association Founders Room, 200 Fletcher. Free. 615–6653.*

"Tiny Tot Time": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation). *March 9 & 23.* A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1–3 (accompanied by a caregiver). Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. *9:30–11 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6. 997–1553.*

Gem Show: Gemstreet USA. *March 9–11.* Some 15–20 vendors from around the country show and sell gem-related items, including meteorites, exotic fossils, cabochons, lampwork beads, gold, silver, pearls, diamonds, and custom jewelry. *10 a.m.–6 p.m. (Mar. 9 & 10), & 11 a.m.–5 p.m. (Mar. 11), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $6 (students and seniors, $4; kids 12 & under, free). Admission ticket good for entire weekend. (810) 227–1637.*

★Lecture Series: U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. *March 9, 16, 23, & 30.* Talks by U-M scholars. Today: U-M Near Eastern studies grad student Kari Neely discusses **"Constructing Diasporic Circassian Identities: A Jordanian-Born Kabardian Remaps 19th-Century History."** Also this month: U-M Iranian studies professor Gernot Windfuhr on **"Zoroastrians"** (March 16), U-M Hebrew lecturer Doron Lamm on **"Teaching Israeli Diversity"** (March 23), and U-M Near Eastern studies grad student Yasmeen Hanoosh on **"'Our Monumental History': Representations of**

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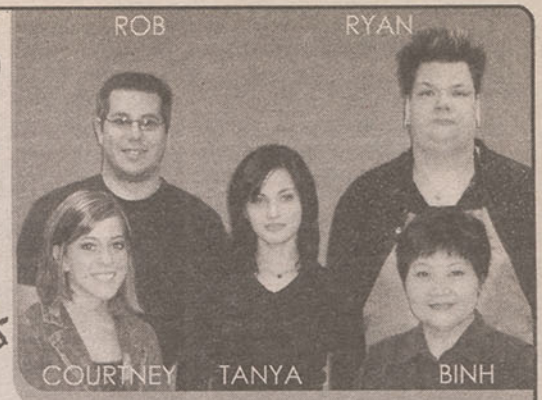

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poetry

Linda Gregerson

The lucky vista

Among the many virtues of U-M professor Linda Gregerson's poetry are its extraordinary sentences. Long and richly textured, they often start with precise observation, detour down the byways and digressions of thought, and end somewhere totally unexpected. For instance, in her new book, *Magnetic North,* she begins her poem "The Turning" with these lines, where sentence fights against line, and in the battle language gets intensely charged:

Just then, when already he's trying
to leave, improbably

young and fair-
complected, the absence of pigment a kind

of disease—he's come as a last
concession and the church

is cold, the other,
the pastor, so palpably wedded to grief he

looks with envy at the fair one, grief's
addictive, it will hitch

a ride on anything—

And the sentence is only half over!

This complexity is not just a kind of game. In *Winter Light,* the Bergman film on which "The Turning" is based, a young man on the brink of suicide comes to the church in a last effort to find hope, and the pastor fails him. But Gregerson recognizes the generosity in the suicide, who turns away rather than force the man of God to confront his own iniquities: "The turning/is a kind of tact."

The seriousness of this poem is typical of this book, the poet's fourth and an indication of the central position she has reached in contemporary American poetry. In many ways *Magnetic North* can be read as an extended meditation on mortality and the ways we come to terms with it. In this exploration Gregerson moves easily across the cultural map. The book begins with the image that dominates our decade—the collapse of the towers—and along the way incorporates words from a medieval text on falconry, an extended riff on St. Augustine, television evangelists, children's art created in German concentration camps, and several poems that engage the visual arts.

The collection ends with "Elegant," perhaps the best poem about science I have read in a long time. "Elegant" is hard to quote here because it moves all over the page, showing a new formal restlessness in a poet who has long been praised for her formal mastery. The poem's subject is the work done on a roundworm *(C. elegans)* that earned the Nobel Prize for three scientists in 2002; the Nobel Committee summarized their work as a discovery of "the genetic regulation of organ development and programmed cell death." As the poet tells us, "The world so rarely//lets us in, let's/praise//the lucky vista when it does." The poem becomes a meditation on the meaning of this work, how it connects us—through our mortality—to the world around us. Our very end becomes the "mother of beauty." Few poets are willing to make this kind of demand on their readers. Linda Gregerson does it magnificently.

Linda Gregerson reads from *Magnetic North* at Shaman Drum Bookshop on Wednesday, March 7.

—Keith Taylor

9 FRIDAY *continued*

Chaldean Identities in the Age of Cultural Mainstreaming" (March 30). *11 a.m.–noon, MLB Lecture Room 1, 812 E. Washington. Free. 764–0350.*

★"Rice, Fish, Beer, Designer Jeans, and Other Human Rights Flash Points in Cambodia": U-M Institute for the Humanities/Rackham Graduate School Perspectives on Human Rights Seminar Series. Talk by U-M clinical law professor Nick Rine, director of the law school's Program for Development in Cambodia. *Noon, 2022 Thayer, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 936–3518.*

★The Yiddish Group: Jewish Community Center. Screening of ***Overture to Glory,*** Max Nossek's 1940 film about a Vilna cantor seduced by the opera. Moyshe Oysher, Florence Weiss. Yiddish, subtitles. Followed by discussion. All invited. *1:30–3 p.m., JCC Newman Room, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★"Critical American Citizenship in the Age of Empire and the Philippine-American War": U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. Talk by Ateneo de Manila University English professor Oscar Campomanes. *2–3:30 p.m., 3512 Haven Hall, 505 S. State St. Free. 764–0352.*

★"Type/Face/Mask: The American Modernist Portrait and 'Racial Art'": U-M History of Art. Lecture by U-M art history professor Jacqueline Francis. *4–6 p.m., 180 Tappan, 519 S. State St. Free. 764–5400.*

★Smith Lecture Series: U-M Geology Department. *March 9, 16, & 23.* Talks by visiting professors. Today: Woods Hole oceanographer Olivier Rouxel discusses **"Using Iron Isotopes as Tracers of Redox Changes in the Paleoproterozoic Ocean."** Also this month: Oklahoma State University geology professor Elizabeth Catlos on **"From Mineral Grain to Mountain Range: Perspectives on the Evolution of the Himalayas"** (March 16) and Arizona State University geology professor Kip Hodges on **"Climate Change and the Late Cenozoic: Tectonic Evolution of the Himalaya and Tibet"** (March 23). *4 p.m., 1528 C. C. Little, 1100 North University. Free. 764–1435.*

★"Human Rights: The Risk of Politics": U-M Philosophy Department Tanner Lecture on Human Values. Lecture by Harvard University Kennedy School of Government public policy professor **Samantha Power,** author of the 2003 Pulitzer Prize–winning *"A Problem from Hell": America and the Age of Genocide.* Also, University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs international relations professor Michael Barnett, Duke University philosophy and public policy professor Allen Buchanan, and U-M law professor Steven Ratner join Power for a symposium on her lecture tomorrow morning (9 a.m.–1 p.m., Michigan League Anderson Room). *4–6 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom. Free. 764–6285.*

★"Manilow Competition": EMU Music Department. EMU undergrad vocalists and instrumentalists in all styles—classical, jazz, & pop—compete in this scholarship competition funded by pop singer Barry Manilow. *4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

★"L'Orfeo; or, The Anxiety of the Moderns": U-M School of Music Ethel Curry Distinguished Lecture in Musicology. Talk by Stanford fine arts professor Karol Berger, a renowned historian of music aesthetics and theory whose books include *Musica Ficta* and *A Theory of Art. 5 p.m., Rackham Auditorium East Conference Room. Free. 764–0583.*

★Michigan Invitational: U-M Women's Lacrosse. See 8 Thursday. Today: **Air Force vs. Lindenwood** (5:30 p.m.), **USC vs. MSU** (7 p.m.), **Lindenwood vs. Michigan** (8:30 p.m.), and **Rhode Island vs. USC** (10 p.m.). 5:30–11 p.m.

"Divided We Fall: Americans in the Aftermath." Valarie Kaur introduces her new documentary, inspired by the murder of a turbaned Sikh man shortly after 9/11 by a self-styled patriot, exploring the ways in which War on Terror hysteria has divided America into a nation of "us" and "them" and the toll this has taken on people's lives. Q&A. *6:30 p.m., Modern Languages auditorium 3, 812 E. Washington. $5 (students, $2). (803) 528–1003.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. *March 9, 10, 23, & 24* This Ann Arbor–based program features 46 of the best 16– and 17-year-old American ice hockey players. The program fields 2 teams—the Under-17 Team and the Under-18 Team—that play full schedules, September-March, against teams from the top American junior leagues (players ages 18–21), American college teams, and comparable European national teams. Today: **Team USA Under-17 vs. Traverse City North Stars** of the North American Hockey League. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. $12 (students & children, $6). 327–9251.*

"Friday Night Live": Ann Arbor Parks Department Youth Outreach Program. Supervised dance party for middle (7–9:30 p.m.) and high school (9:30 p.m.–midnight) students. DJs play a variety of current R&B, rock, rap, and pop. *7 p.m.–midnight, Cobblestone Farm Barn, 2781 Packard. $3. 997–1615.*

★Crazy Wisdom Reading Circle: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to discuss Palo Alto Zen Center founder Larry Dossey's ***The Extraordinary Healing Power of Ordinary Things.*** *7–9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★"Astrobiology": U-M Student Astronomical Society/Society of Biology Students. *Every Friday, March 9–April 6.* A series of lectures by scholars in various fields. Tonight: U-M astronomy professor Ted Bergin presents **"Introduction to Astrobiology: The Search for Life in the Universe."** Also this month: EMU physics and astronomy professor Patrick Koehn discusses **"Building a Home Planet"** (March 16), U-M chemistry professor Nils Walter discusses **"The Formation of Life"** (March 23), and U-M ecology and evolutionary biology professor David Mindell presents **"A Brief History of Life's Diversity"** (March 30). *7:30–8:30 p.m., Angell Hall Auditorium B. Free. 764–3440.*

2nd Friday Advanced English Dance. Joanna Reiner calls English country dancing for experienced dancers, with music by Debbie Jackson, Susie Lorand, and Martha Stokely. Fast pace, with limited walk-throughs. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $10. 665–7704.*

King Wilkie: The Ark. Young bluegrass sextet from Charlottesville, Virginia, that plays both classy originals and sublime old songs with the finesse of veterans and the abandon of kids taking the stage for the first time. "King Wilkie manages to combine in one group the two basic strands of bluegrass—the Bill Monroe line, with its bluesy mandolin and high lonesome vocal sound, and the Stanley Brothers' harmonies and songwriting, deriving from an Appalachian ballad tradition that goes back to the Child ballads of Britain and Scotland," says *Music Dish* critic Timothy Peters. The band's debut CD, *Broke,* topped the *Bluegrass Unlimited* album chart. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Godspell": St. Mary's Student Parish. *March 9 & 10.* Brian Peck and Kristen Berndt direct fellow U-M students and St. Mary's adult congregants in John Michael Telebak's perennially popular 1971 musical based on the Gospel of Matthew. Telebak's Jesus is a clownlike character who inspires his followers, a band of downtrodden homeless characters, through entertaining parables that show them how God works in everyday life. *8 p.m., St. Mary's, 331 Thompson. $5 suggested donation. 663–0557.*

"The Complete Works of Shakespeare Abridged": U-M Residential College Players. *March 9 & 10.* Lisa Fetman directs fellow RC students in the Re-

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duced Shakespeare Company's acclaimed 97-minute transformation of Shakespeare's 37 plays into a fast-paced, hilarious, and outrageously irreverent blend of Marx Brothers-style absurdity and Three Stooges slapstick. The program opens with an acrobatic travesty of *Romeo and Juliet* and features *Titus Andronicus* performed as a cooking show, a rap version of *Othello*, a condensation of the 14 comedies into an orgy of mixed identities and cross dressing that goes under the title of *The Love Boat Goes to Verona*, and a collective treatment of the history plays as a football game. The second half of the show is devoted to four versions of *Hamlet*, including one performed backwards. *8 p.m., RC Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. $5 (students, $3). 647–4354.*

★**The Library Project.** *March 9 & 10.* An evening of collaborations between U-M student choreographers and composers featuring works created specifically to be performed in the U-M music school library for an audience occupying the 2nd-floor balcony that surrounds the performance space. Alexandra Burley's *A Box of Sun*, a dance exploration of the Joseph Pintauro play, is a series of seamlessly connected episodes set to Ian Dicke's score for trumpet, viola, electric guitar, electronics, percussion, and double bass. Alex Springer's *Journey* is a retelling of the archetypal hero's journey set to Rob Vuichard's dual piano score. Sam Stone's *Brand X* investigates fads and obsessions to a sophisticated Alex Temple score. *8 p.m., U-M School of Music Library, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. (248) 320–2443.*

★**"Fuddy Meers": U-M Basement Arts.** See 8 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

"Desdemona: A Play about a Handkerchief": Re-Active Productions. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Les Liaisons Dangereuses": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament & The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Full Impact: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Astronomy Department.** *March 9 & 23.* All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, Student Astronomy Society members give short presentations on a variety of astronomy topics. *9–11 p.m., fifth floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (from the large State St. entrance, take one of the elevators on the left to the fifth floor). Free. 764–3440.*

Rachel Z: Firefly Club. Contemporary jazz by a trio led by this acclaimed New York City pianist whose versatile approach encompasses a range of styles from fusion, funk, and pop-jazz to bebop. She has released several CDs, including *Moon at the Window*, a 2003 collection of lively, artful interpretations of Joni Mitchell songs, and the recent *Grace*, an adventurous exploration of a range of sounds and textures from straight-ahead jazz to ambient. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets $12 at the door only. 665–9090.*

FILMS

Jewish Community Center. "Overture to Glory" (Max Nossek, 1940). See Events listing above. JCC, 1:30 p.m. **Michigan Theater Foundation. "The Lives of Others"** (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006). *March 9–19.* An East German Stasi interrogator assigned to spy on a suspect playwright and his girlfriend becomes dangerously interested in their lives. German, subtitles. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

10 SATURDAY

★**"3rd Annual Young Scientists Symposium": U-M Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.** Eight young scientists from universities across the nation give talks on their current research on ecological and evolutionary processes. Also, a plenary talk by University of Arizona ecology and evolutionary biology professor Judith Bronstein on **"How Little Do We Know about Mutualisms?"** Speakers: Samantha Ford discusses **"Spatial Structure and Coevolutionary Interactions Between Species,"** Dustin Rubenstein on **"Spatiotemporal Environmental Variation and the Evolution of Complex Social and Mating Systems,"** Renee Duckworth on **"Rapid Evolution of Aggression Across the Recent Range Expansion of a Passerine Bird,"** Meghan Duffy on **"Rapid Evolution and Ecological Host-Parasite Dynamics,"** Brian Langerhans on **"Predicting Micro- and Macroevolution from First Principles in a Genus of Livebearing Fish,"** Allison Bennett on **"Mycorrhizal Fungi Alter the Ecology and Evolution of Plant-Herbivore Interactions,"** Lesley Campbell on **"Rapid Evolution: The Role of Hybridization in Adaptation,"** and Marc Johnson on **"The Community Genetics of Plant-Arthropod Interactions."** *8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., East Hall Auditorium, 530 Church. Free. 764–2139.*

Huron Gun Collectors. *March 10 & 11.* Some 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. *9 a.m.–4 p.m. (Mar. 10) & 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (Mar. 11). Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $4. (517) 605–0624.*

★**Restoration Work Day: U-M Nichols Arboretum.** All invited to help Arb director Bob Grese and Arb staff members remove invasive plants and prepare new planting sites. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided; bring loppers or pruners if you wish. *9 a.m.–noon, meet at an Arb location TBA. Free. 998–9540.*

★**"Birdwatching for Beginners": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** A bird person TBA gives a slide-illustrated talk about bird-spotting tips and techniques, followed by a walk in the park to practice. *10 a.m.–noon, County Farm Park, Platt Rd. entrance (south of Washtenaw). Free. Preregistration required. 971–6337.*

★**Materials Recovery Facility Monthly Open House: Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department.** *March 10 & 13.* Guided tours of the city's recycling and trash disposal center. Also, make a **mosaic tile** with found art, recycled glass pieces, and other durable items. *10 a.m.–noon (Mar. 10) & 3–5 p.m. (Mar. 13) &, Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 994–2807.*

Maple Sugar Festival: Waterloo Natural History Association. *March 10 & 11.* Demos on how to make maple syrup, from tapping the trees and collecting the sap to the finished syrup. Also, showing of the documentary video *Maple Sugar Farmer*. Maple products available for sale. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (family, $5; WNHA members, free). Preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: $6/day, $24/year ($6/year for seniors age 65 & over). 475–3170.*

★**"Introduction to Reiki": Whole Foods Market.** Talk by local naturopath Audrey Blagsvedt. *11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975–4500.*

★**49th Annual Southeast Michigan Science Fair.** Display of 400 science projects by area junior and senior high school students. The junior division includes models, collections, and experiments. The senior division includes projects involving biochemistry, microbiology, botany, chemistry, geology, the environment, math, computer science, physics, sociology, and zoology. The top 2 individual and team winners go to the Intel International Science Fair, held in May in Albuquerque. *Noon–4 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 615–4455.*

"Mission Impossible?": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). Leslie Science Center staff lead kids around the center to test their knowledge of nature's mysteries and puzzles. Kids must be accompanied by an adult. *1–3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6 per person. Preregistration required. 997–1553.*

★**Michigan Invitational: U-M Women's Lacrosse.** See 8 Thursday. Today: **USC vs. Lindenwood** (1 p.m.), **Rhode Island vs. Michigan** (2:30 p.m.), **MSU vs. Lindenwood** (4 p.m.), **Wisconsin vs. Michigan** (5:30 p.m.), **Rhode Island vs. Air Force** (7 p.m.), and **Wisconsin vs. MSU** (8:30 p.m.). 1–9:30 p.m.

★**Ann Arbor Rowing Club.** A chance to chat with club members and learn about AARC rowing programs. *1–4 p.m., AARC boathouse, Argo Pond (Bandemer Park entrance). Free. 930–6462.*

"Super Science Shows": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum Family Day. *Every Saturday & Sunday beginning March 10.* Museum staff give family-friendly science demos. *1 & 3 p.m., Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. $7 (members and infants free) regular museum admission. 995–5439.*

★**Trombone Recitals: U-M School of Music.** Recitals by U-M trombone professor **David Jackson** and the **U-M Trombone Ensemble** (1:30 p.m., Recital Hall), U-M trombone professor **Dennis Wilson** (3 p.m., McIntosh Theater), and the duo of Boston Symphony Orchestra principal trombonist **Ron Barron** and former Woody Herman Band soloist **Phil Wilson** (4 p.m., McIntosh Theater). Programs TBA. *1:30 p.m., U-M Music School, 1100*

Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.

★**"Animania": U-M Japanese Animation Film Society.** Monthly anime-a-thon of feature films and episodes from TV series. This month's series: ***Busou Renkin*** is about a high school student who's given a magic lance in order to battle homunculi, ***Ouran High School Host Club*** is about a high school student who is given a challenging task to compensate for breaking an expensive vase, and ***Death Note*** is about a high school student who invents a way to kill all the world's criminals. Raffle. *U-M campus admission policy:* No one under 18 admitted without an adult. *5 p.m.–midnight, MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer. Free. www.umich.edu/~animania.*

Bockbier Fest: Ann Arbor Schwaben Verein. This annual spring festival features a German dinner followed by dancing to **The Sorgenbrechers.** Cash bar. *6–11 p.m., UAW Local 892, 601 Woodland, Saline. Tickets $25 in advance and (if available) at the door. Reservations recommended. For reservations, call Bob Loukotka at 769–5746.*

★**Open House: University Lowbrow Astronomers.** A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments at the Peach Mountain Observatory. The observatory's huge, 24-inch McMath telescope is operational, but participants are nevertheless encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. *6:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. (as long as the sky remains clear), Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1¼ miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332–9132.*

U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Illinois. Last home match for a U-M squad that was ranked number 1 nationally in mid-February. *7 p.m., Crisler Arena, S. State at Hoover. $3 (youths age 12 & under, $1; U-M students, free). 763–2159.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 9 Friday. Today: **Team USA Under-17 vs. Traverse City North Stars** of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m.

★**"6th Annual Dance on Camera Festival": U-M Dance Department.** *March 10 & 11 (different locations).* Screening of a video of a juried selection of videodance works featured in the recent 35th Annual Dance on Camera Festival at Lincoln Center in New York. Videodance is a hybrid art form that combines the dynamics of dance and the moving body with film/video editing and direction, animation, and computer technology. This year's compilation is highlighted by *Movement (R)evolution Africa,* a collection of pieces by 8 African choreographers showcasing emergent African dance forms. Other highlights include U-M dance professor Peter Sparling's *Babel,* New Zealand choreographer Shona McCullagh's festival-winning *Break,* and Australian choreographer Sue Healey's *Will Time Tell?,* a meditative short that plays with rhythms and counterrhythms. *7–9 p.m., Palmer Commons Forum Hall, 100 Washtenaw. Free. 647–2288.*

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the 40s through the 80s. Preceded at 7 p.m. by an introduction to basic dance steps and ballroom dancing styles by Sue Bareis, Washtenaw County's best-known ballroom dance instructor. All invited, singles as well as couples. Refreshments. *8–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. $4. 822–2120.*

"Singing Lessons and Songs to Live By": Vocal Arts Ensemble. Ben Cohen conducts this 24-voice local chamber choir in Robert Starer's "Proverbs for a Son," Adam Grossman's "Proverbs," Leonard Bernstein's "The Best of All Possible Worlds," selections from Gregg Smith's *Aesop's Fables,* and more. *8 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Tickets $15 (seniors age 66 & older and students, $10) at the door only. 665–7823.*

★**Yehonatan Berick and John Ellis: U-M School of Music.** Berick and Ellis perform the complete Brahms sonatas for violin and piano. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

"From Russia with Love": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. *See review, p. 99.* AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in a concert celebrating Russian music highlighted by Rachmaninoff's delightful, enthralling *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini,* with guest piano soloist **Anton Nel,** a former U-M music professor now at the University of Texas. Also, Rimsky-Korsakov's exalted *Russian Easter Overture* and Tchaikovsky's final work, *Symphonie Pathetique,* a complex blend of hope, sorrow, happiness, and dread. Preceded at 7 p.m. by lecture-demonstration by Lipsky, free to ticketholders, about tonight's program. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10–$42 in advance at the AASO office, 527 E. Liberty, suite 208. $25 dinner-and-concert package available for those ages 21–39. Half-price rush tickets for students with ID at the door only. 994–4801.*

Ember Swift: The Ark. Swift is an award-winning singer-songwriter from Toronto—Joni Mitchell is one of her fans—whom one critic called a "jazz vocalist inhabiting the body of an alternative-folk singer-songwriter." Her music mixes and matches several genres from funk and punk to world music and reggae, and her songs address a wide range of political and cultural issues. She currently performs with a trio, and she has a new CD, *The Dirty Pulse,* due out in April that features, among other goodies, a celebration of the redemptive powers of bowling. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Godspell": St. Mary's Student Parish. See 9 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"Fuddy Meers": U-M Basement Arts.** See 8 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

★**The Library Project.** See 9 Friday. 6 & 8 p.m.

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Les Liaisons Dangereuses": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Complete Works of Shakespeare Abridged": U-M Residential College Players. See 9 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Desdemona: A Play about a Handkerchief": Re-Active Productions. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Full Impact: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Don Theyken calls contras to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Wear flat, smooth-soled shoes. Beginners welcome. *8 p.m., Webster Community Hall, Webster Church Rd. between Joy and North Territorial), Dexter. $8. 996–8359.*

2nd Saturday Swing Dance: Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. Dancing to recorded jump blues, swing, and big-band music. All welcome; no partner necessary. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by lessons ($5). *8:30–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $5 (dance with lesson, $7). 213–0537.*

Claudia Schmidt Quartet: Firefly Club. A longtime local favorite with both folk and jazz audiences, Schmidt is a Traverse City vocalist known for her strikingly luminous, warmly ingratiating voice. Tonight she performs blues and jazz standards and originals, including songs from *Live at the Dakota,* her new CD recorded at the Dakota Jazz Club in Minneapolis last year. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets $10 at the door only. 665–9090.*

FILMS

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11 SUNDAY

★**Michigan Invitational: U-M Women's Lacrosse.** See 8 Thursday. Today: **Air Force vs. Wisconsin** (8 a.m.), **MSU vs. Rhode Island** (9:30 a.m.), **Air Force vs. Michigan** (11 a.m.). 8 a.m.–noon.

★**Sunday Schmooze: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society.** All invited for socializing and discussion. Coffee, snack. Today's topic TBA. *10 a.m.–noon, Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 975–9872.*

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Friday, March 23, 2007 at 7:00pm
Saturday, March 24, 2007 at 2:00pm and at 7:00pm
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2121 Oak Valley Dr., Ann Arbor

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March 30, 2007
6-9 p.m.

Kim John Payne M.Ed. is an Australian who has for 20 years worked as a counselor, adult educator, consultant/researcher and educator. He is the author of the book *The Games Children Play* (1996), published by Hawthorn Press. For more information about Kim visit his website www.thechildtoday.com.

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or go to www.rssaa.org

9 FRIDAY *continued*

duced Shakespeare Company's acclaimed 97-minute transformation of Shakespeare's 37 plays into a fast-paced, hilarious, and outrageously irreverent blend of Marx Brothers-style absurdity and Three Stooges slapstick. The program opens with an acrobatic travesty of *Romeo and Juliet* and features *Titus Andronicus* performed as a cooking show, a rap version of *Othello*, a condensation of the 14 comedies into an orgy of mixed identities and cross dressing that goes under the title of *The Love Boat Goes to Verona*, and a collective treatment of the history plays as a football game. The second half of the show is devoted to four versions of *Hamlet*, including one performed backwards. *8 p.m., RC Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. $5 (students, $3). 647–4354.*

★**The Library Project.** *March 9 & 10.* An evening of collaborations between U-M student choreographers and composers featuring works created specifically to be performed in the U-M music school library for an audience occupying the 2nd-floor balcony that surrounds the performance space. Alexandra Burley's *A Box of Sun*, a dance exploration of the Joseph Pintauro play, is a series of seamlessly connected episodes set to Ian Dicke's score for trumpet, viola, electric guitar, electronics, percussion, and double bass. Alex Springer's *Journey* is a retelling of the archetypal hero's journey set to Rob Vuichard's dual piano score. Sam Stone's *Brand X* investigates fads and obsessions to a sophisticated Alex Temple score. *8 p.m., U-M School of Music Library, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. (248) 320–2443.*

★**"Fuddy Meers": U-M Basement Arts.** See 8 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

"Desdemona: A Play about a Handkerchief": Re-Active Productions. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Les Liaisons Dangereuses": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament & The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Full Impact: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Astronomy Department.** *March 9 & 23.* All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, Student Astronomy Society members give short presentations on a variety of astronomy topics. *9–11 p.m., fifth floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (from the large State St. entrance, take one of the elevators on the left to the fifth floor). Free. 764–3440.*

Rachel Z: Firefly Club. Contemporary jazz by a trio led by this acclaimed New York City pianist whose versatile approach encompasses a range of styles from fusion, funk, and pop-jazz to bebop. She has released several CDs, including *Moon at the Window*, a 2003 collection of lively, artful interpretations of Joni Mitchell songs, and the recent *Grace*, an adventurous exploration of a range of sounds and textures from straight-ahead jazz to ambient. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets $12 at the door only. 665–9090.*

FILMS

Jewish Community Center. "Overture to Glory" (Max Nossek, 1940). See Events listing above. JCC, 1:30 p.m. **Michigan Theater Foundation. "The Lives of Others"** (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006). *March 9–19.* An East German Stasi interrogator assigned to spy on a suspect playwright and his girlfriend becomes dangerously interested in their lives. German, subtitles. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA.

10 SATURDAY

★**"3rd Annual Young Scientists Symposium": U-M Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.** Eight young scientists from universities across the nation give talks on their current research on ecological and evolutionary processes. Also, a plenary talk by University of Arizona ecology and evolutionary biology professor Judith Bronstein on **"How Little Do We Know about Mutualisms?"** Speakers: Samantha Ford discusses **"Spatial Structure and Coevolutionary Interactions Between Species,"** Dustin Rubenstein on **"Spatiotemporal Environmental Variation and the Evolution of Complex Social and Mating Systems,"** Renee Duckworth on **"Rapid Evolution of Aggression Across the Recent Range Expansion of a Passerine Bird,"** Meghan Duffy on **"Rapid Evolution and Ecological Host-Parasite Dynamics,"** Brian Langerhans on **"Predicting Micro- and Macroevolution from First Principles in a Genus of Livebearing Fish,"** Allison Bennett on **"Mycorrhizal Fungi Alter the Ecology and Evolution of Plant-Herbivore Interactions,"** Lesley Campbell on **"Rapid Evolution: The Role of Hybridization in Adaptation,"** and Marc Johnson on **"The Community Genetics of Plant-Arthropod Interactions."** *8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., East Hall Auditorium, 530 Church. Free. 764–2139.*

Huron Gun Collectors. *March 10 & 11.* Some 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. *9 a.m.–4 p.m. (Mar. 10) & 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (Mar. 11), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $4. (517) 605–0624.*

★**Restoration Work Day: U-M Nichols Arboretum.** All invited to help Arb director Bob Grese and Arb staff members remove invasive plants and prepare new planting sites. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided; bring loppers or pruners if you wish. *9 a.m.–noon, meet at an Arb location TBA. Free. 998–9540.*

★**"Birdwatching for Beginners": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** A bird person TBA gives a slide-illustrated talk about bird-spotting tips and techniques, followed by a walk in the park to practice. *10 a.m.–noon, County Farm Park, Platt Rd. entrance (south of Washtenaw). Free. Preregistration required. 971–6337.*

★**Materials Recovery Facility Monthly Open House: Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department.** *March 10 & 13.* Guided tours of the city's recycling and trash disposal center. Also, make a **mosaic tile** with found art, recycled glass pieces, and other durable items. *10 a.m.–noon (Mar. 10) & 3–5 p.m. (Mar. 13) &, Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 994–2807.*

Maple Sugar Festival: Waterloo Natural History Association. *March 10 & 11.* Demos on how to make maple syrup, from tapping the trees and collecting the sap to the finished syrup. Also, showing of the documentary video *Maple Sugar Farmer.* Maple products available for sale. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (family, $5; WNHA members, free). Preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: $6/day, $24/year ($6/year for seniors age 65 & over). 475–3170.*

★**"Introduction to Reiki": Whole Foods Market.** Talk by local naturopath Audrey Blagsvedt. *11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975–4500.*

★**49th Annual Southeast Michigan Science Fair.** Display of 400 science projects by area junior and senior high school students. The junior division includes models, collections, and experiments. The senior division includes projects involving biochemistry, microbiology, botany, chemistry, geology, the environment, math, computer science, physics, sociology, and zoology. The top 2 individual and team winners go to the Intel International Science Fair, held in May in Albuquerque. *Noon–4 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 615–4455.*

"Mission Impossible?": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). Leslie Science Center staff lead kids around the center to test their knowledge of nature's mysteries and puzzles. Kids must be accompanied by an adult. *1–3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $6 per person. Preregistration required. 997–1553.*

★**Michigan Invitational: U-M Women's Lacrosse.** See 8 Thursday. Today: **USC vs. Lindenwood** (1 p.m.), **Rhode Island vs. Michigan** (2:30 p.m.), **MSU vs. Lindenwood** (4 p.m.), **Wisconsin vs. Michigan** (5:30 p.m.), **Rhode Island vs. Air Force** (7 p.m.), and **Wisconsin vs. MSU** (8:30 p.m.). 1–9:30 p.m.

★**Ann Arbor Rowing Club.** A chance to chat with club members and learn about AARC rowing programs. *1–4 p.m., AARC boathouse, Argo Pond (Bandemer Park entrance). Free. 930–6462.*

"Super Science Shows": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum Family Day. *Every Saturday & Sunday beginning March 10.* Museum staff give family-friendly science demos. *1 & 3 p.m., Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. $7 (members and infants free) regular museum admission. 995–5439.*

★**Trombone Recitals: U-M School of Music.** Recitals by U-M trombone professor **David Jackson** and the **U-M Trombone Ensemble** (1:30 p.m., Recital Hall), U-M trombone professor **Dennis Wilson** (3 p.m., McIntosh Theater), and the duo of Boston Symphony Orchestra principal trombonist **Ron Barron** and former Woody Herman Band soloist **Phil Wilson** (4 p.m., McIntosh Theater). Programs TBA. *1:30 p.m., U-M Music School, 1100*

Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.

★**"Animania": U-M Japanese Animation Film Society.** Monthly anime-a-thon of feature films and episodes from TV series. This month's series: ***Busou Renkin*** is about a high school student who's given a magic lance in order to battle homunculi, ***Ouran High School Host Club*** is about a high school student who is given a challenging task to compensate for breaking an expensive vase, and ***Death Note*** is about a high school student who invents a way to kill all the world's criminals. Raffle. *U-M campus admission policy:* No one under 18 admitted without an adult. *5 p.m.–midnight, MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer. Free. www.umich.edu/~animania.*

Bockbier Fest: Ann Arbor Schwaben Verein. This annual spring festival features a German dinner followed by dancing to **The Sorgenbrechers.** Cash bar. *6–11 p.m., UAW Local 892, 601 Woodland, Saline. Tickets $25 in advance and (if available) at the door. Reservations recommended. For reservations, call Bob Loukotka at 769–5746.*

★**Open House: University Lowbrow Astronomers.** A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments at the Peach Mountain Observatory. The observatory's huge, 24-inch McMath telescope is operational, but participants are nevertheless encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. *6:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. (as long as the sky remains clear), Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1¼ miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332–9132.*

U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Illinois. Last home match for a U-M squad that was ranked number 1 nationally in mid-February. *7 p.m., Crisler Arena, S. State at Hoover. $3 (youths age 12 & under, $1; U-M students, free). 763–2159.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 9 Friday. Today: **Team USA Under-17 vs. Traverse City North Stars** of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m.

★**"6th Annual Dance on Camera Festival": U-M Dance Department.** *March 10 & 11 (different locations).* Screening of a video of a juried selection of videodance works featured in the recent 35th Annual Dance on Camera Festival at Lincoln Center in New York. Videodance is a hybrid art form that combines the dynamics of dance and the moving body with film/video editing and direction, animation, and computer technology. This year's compilation is highlighted by *Movement (R)evolution Africa,* a collection of pieces by 8 African choreographers showcasing emergent African dance forms. Other highlights include U-M dance professor Peter Sparling's *Babel,* New Zealand choreographer Shona McCullagh's festival-winning *Break,* and Australian choreographer Sue Healey's *Will Time Tell?,* a meditative short that plays with rhythms and counterrhythms. *7–9 p.m., Palmer Commons Forum Hall, 100 Washtenaw. Free. 647–2288.*

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the 40s through the 80s. Preceded at 7 p.m. by an introduction to basic dance steps and ballroom dancing styles by Sue Bareis, Washtenaw County's best-known ballroom dance instructor. All invited, singles as well as couples. Refreshments. *8–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. $4. 822–2120.*

"Singing Lessons and Songs to Live By": Vocal Arts Ensemble. Ben Cohen conducts this 24-voice local chamber choir in Robert Starer's "Proverbs for a Son," Adam Grossman's "Proverbs," Leonard Bernstein's "The Best of All Possible Worlds," selections from Gregg Smith's *Aesop's Fables,* and more. *8 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Tickets $15 (seniors age 66 & older and students, $10) at the door only. 665–7823.*

★**Yehonatan Berick and John Ellis: U-M School of Music.** Berick and Ellis perform the complete Brahms sonatas for violin and piano. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

"From Russia with Love": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. *See review, p. 99.* AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in a concert celebrating Russian music highlighted by Rachmaninoff's delightful, enthralling *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini,* with guest piano soloist **Anton Nel,** a former U-M music professor now at the University of Texas. Also, Rimsky-Korsakov's exalted *Russian Easter Overture* and Tchaikovsky's final work, *Symphonie Pathetique,* a complex blend of hope, sorrow, happiness, and dread. Preceded at 7 p.m. by lecture-demonstration by Lipsky, free to ticketholders, about tonight's program. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10–$42 in advance at the AASO office, 527 E. Liberty, suite 208. $25 dinner-and-concert package available for those ages 21–39. Half-price rush tickets for students with ID at the door only. 994–4801.*

Ember Swift: The Ark. Swift is an award-winning singer-songwriter from Toronto—Joni Mitchell is one of her fans—whom one critic called a "jazz vocalist inhabiting the body of an alternative-folk singer-songwriter." Her music mixes and matches several genres from funk and punk to world music and reggae, and her songs address a wide range of political and cultural issues. She currently performs with a trio, and she has a new CD, *The Dirty Pulse,* due out in April that features, among other goodies, a celebration of the redemptive powers of bowling. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Godspell": St. Mary's Student Parish. See 9 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"Fuddy Meers": U-M Basement Arts.** See 8 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

★**The Library Project.** See 9 Friday. 6 & 8 p.m.

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"Les Liaisons Dangereuses": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Complete Works of Shakespeare Abridged": U-M Residential College Players. See 9 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Desdemona: A Play about a Handkerchief": Re-Active Productions. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Full Impact: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Don Theyken calls contras to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Wear flat, smooth-soled shoes. Beginners welcome. *8 p.m., Webster Community Hall, Webster Church Rd. between Joy and North Territorial), Dexter. $8. 996–8359.*

2nd Saturday Swing Dance: Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. Dancing to recorded jump blues, swing, and big-band music. All welcome; no partner necessary. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by lessons ($5). *8:30–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $5 (dance with lesson, $7). 213–0537.*

Claudia Schmidt Quartet: Firefly Club. A longtime local favorite with both folk and jazz audiences, Schmidt is a Traverse City vocalist known for her strikingly luminous, warmly ingratiating voice. Tonight she performs blues and jazz standards and originals, including songs from *Live at the Dakota,* her new CD recorded at the Dakota Jazz Club in Minneapolis last year. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets $10 at the door only. 665–9090.*

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- Or -
scook@summers-knoll.org
jclaflin@summers-knoll.org

11 SUNDAY *continued*

tivities. *11 a.m.–4 p.m., heated tent on Detroit St. in front of Zingerman's. Free. 663–DELI.*

"Shamrocks and Shenanigans 5K": Conor O'Neill's. 2–lap 5 km race and walk that starts and finishes in front of Conor O'Neill's on Main Street. Also, a 200 m dash for kids. Awards to male and female winners in each age division. Inside Conor O'Neill's following the race, face painting, bagpipers, and Irish music and dancing. Proceeds to benefit Mott Children's Hospital. *1:30 p.m. (kids dash) & 2 p.m. (5 km race & walk), Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $22 in advance, $25 day of race. Kids race: $5 in advance and day of race. 665–2968.*

19th Annual Wild Game Dinner: Ann Arbor Elks Lodge. This buffet of wild game includes rabbit, deer, caribou, elk, and other delectables. Door prizes and a raffle. Proceeds benefit local charities. *2 p.m., Elks Lodge, 4420 Jackson Ave. Tickets $15 in advance and at the door. Space limited. 663–1105.*

★**"Almost a Bog? Exploring the West Edge of Lake Genevieve": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner discusses how these kettle lakes are formed and leads a hike to its matlike edge. Wear boots and pants that can get wet. *2–4 p.m., Park Lyndon South, 18801 North Territorial Rd. (east of M-52), Lyndon Twp. Free. Preregistration requested. 971–6337, ext. 318.*

★**Dinaw Mengestu: Ann Arbor District Library "Sunday Edition."** This Ethiopian American fiction writer from New York City discusses his life and his debut novel ***The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears,*** the story of an Ethiopian man who, after witnessing his father being beaten to death during the Ethiopian Revolution, emigrates to the U.S., where he finds a different kind of desolation working in a grocery store in an impoverished D.C. neighborhood. Signing. Copies of the book available for purchase. In conjunction with 2007 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 26 Monday *Mountains Beyond Mountains* listing). Taped for repeat broadcasts on cable channel 17. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Jazz Clinic: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts.** Performances by 4 ensembles of high school seniors studying at the AASPA. *2–4 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Free. 995–4625.*

★**Shape Note Singing: The Ark/Ann Arbor Sacred Harp.** All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Songbooks available, but singers are encouraged to bring their own. *2–5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 747–9644, 761–1451.*

★**Friends of Four-Hand Piano.** Pianists of all abilities invited to bring their music for a casual afternoon of performing duets. An opportunity to meet other pianists and find partners for 4-hand and 2-piano music. Listeners welcome. *2 p.m., location TBA. Free. 971–6261, 485–5007.*

★**U-M Euphonium and Tuba Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** Guest conductor Todd Fiegel conducts this ensemble in Fiegel's originals and arrangements to accompany movies live, including the Roadrunner cartoon *Zoom and Bored,* "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" from *Fantasia,* and the 1913 Mack Sennett comedy *Barney Oldfield's Race for a Life.* Also, the "Witches' Sabbath" from Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique. 2 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

★**Guest Recital: U-M School of Music.** Soprano **Nicole Philibosian** and tenor **Ronald Gentry,** both Interlochen faculty members, perform opera favorites. Piano accompanist is Lyric Opera of Chicago assistant conductor **Donna Brunsma**. *2 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

"Les Liaisons Dangereuses": Michigan Classical Repertory Theater. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**Dexter Community Orchestra.** Don Parrish conducts this volunteer ensemble in a program highlighted by Mozart's Piano Concerto no. 21 in C. Soloist is Moscow State Conservatory and U-M music school grad **Dmitri Vorobiev.** Also, Sibelius's *Finlandia* and Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 4. *3 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker (south of Shield from Baker Rd.), Dexter. Free. 355–0725.*

★**"A Sea Apart": U-M Hellenic Student Association.** Moving film drama about a Greek American woman torn between her obligations to her American family and her buried passion for the youth she left behind in Greece. Ersi Danou, 2004. Greek, subtitles. *3 p.m., Angell Hall Auditorium B. Free. 936–6099.*

★**"Backyard Meteorology": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library.** *March 11, 28, & 31 (different locations).* All kids ages 6–11 (accompanied by an adult) invited to learn how meteorologists predict the weather. Participants also make some weather forecasting equipment to take home. In conjunction with the new Exhibit Museum exhibit *Climate Change: Local Impacts, Global Responsibility. 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. Preregistration required 2 weeks in advance. 764–0478.*

Ann Arbor Body Waves/Dance Choir. *March 11 & 25.* All invited to join dancing and freeform movement to a changing assortment of rock, electronic, world, and other music. *4–5:40 p.m., Academy Dance Space, 1785 W. Stadium. $1–$15 sliding scale. 665–0622.*

"Fairy Tales": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. *See review, p. 99.* AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra in a family concert highlighted by excerpts from John Williams's score for *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone.* Community High student Samuel Rast is the guest French horn soloist in the first movement of Mozart's Horn Concerto in D Major. Also, music from Tchaikovsky's *The Sleeping Beauty,* Prokofiev's *Cinderella,* Stravinsky's *The Firebird,* Rossini's *The Thieving Magpie,* and more. Kids are invited to dress as their favorite fairy tale or Harry Potter character. Preceded at 2:30 p.m. by a string instrument "petting zoo" and the chance to try a related craft. *4 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $12 (children, $5) in advance or at the door. 994–4801.*

Midori: University Musical Society. Already one of the world's leading violinists at age 25, this Japan-born, Los Angeles-based violinist at age 10 inspired renowned Israeli violinist Pinchas Zukerman to say she played the Sauret cadenza as only a few people in the entire universe could. "Midori's refined tone and subtly poised expression had the orchestra responding with the air of an intimate conversation," writes a reviewer in *The Independent.* Program: Beethoven's joyful, refreshing *Spring Sonata,* Strauss's Sonata in E-flat Major, and *Lost Landscapes,* a new Einojuhani Rautavaara work Midori commissioned, which the composer says is "full of memories and atmospheres." After the concert, Morgan & York (preregistration required at 662–0798) hosts a **wine & cheese tasting** ($60) with Midori. *4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$56 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

"Desdemona: A Play about a Handkerchief": Re-Active Productions. See 8 Thursday. 4 p.m.

★**Rainbow Book Club.** All invited to discuss ***Seventy Times Seven,*** Salvatore Sapienza's poignant, funny novel about a young man's struggle to reconcile his religion with his sex life. Also, a visit from Sapienza for Q&A. *4:30–6:30 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 663–0036.*

★**Booked for Murder Mystery Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to discuss 2 murder mysteries TBA. *4:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769–2149.*

★**Daniel Gilbert: EMU Music Department.** This Cleveland Orchestra principal clarinetist performs a program TBA. *6 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

"Rosa de dos Aromas": Teatro Latino. The local Alebrije Group presents, in Spanish, Mexican playwright Emilio Carballido's popular comedy about 2 women—the refined and highly cultured Gabriela and vulgar, ill-spoken beauty parlor owner Marlene—who meet in the waiting room of a jail, where Gabriela's husband is being held because of a car accident and Marlene's lover is charged with sexually violating a minor. Stars Mexican actresses Estela Cardenas and Carmela Perez. *6 p.m., U-M Residential College Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. $12 (students, $8) at the door only. 330–1890, 678–7599.*

★**"Theology on Tap": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Outreach Committee.** All invited to join an informal discussion of social, theological, and political issues. Tonight: St. Andrew's interim rector Bryant Dennison discusses **"Millennium Development Goals,"** a set of goals embraced by UN member countries to alleviate poverty, hunger, disease, and environmental degradation. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *7 p.m., Arbor Brewing, 116 E. Washington. Free. 213–5378.*

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. Tom Starks leads an evening of Israeli dancing. Instruction provided. *7–9 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $5. 971–0990.*

★**"6th Annual Dance on Camera Festival": U-M Dance Department.** See 10 Saturday. *7–9 p.m., U-M Dance Bldg. Betty Pease Dance Studio, 1310 North University Ct. Free. 647–2288.*

Alejandro Escovedo Duo: The Ark. First local appearance in more than a decade by this celebrated Austin-based roots-rock singer-songwriter, the founder of the seminal 80s cowpunk band Rank and File and *No Depression* magazine's 1990s Artist of the Decade. He specializes in songs and ballads about moments of crisis and insight in ordinary lives, and his music is known for its blend of earthy emotional power and stylistic flexibility. "Musically, Alejandro Escovedo is in his own genre," says veteran *Rolling Stone* critic David Fricke. "[He's] a folk-blues classicist with a gritty, plaintive voice and an equal fondness for dirty boogie and spectral balladry." He's accompanied tonight by violinist Susan Voelz. Opening act is former Green on Red guitarist **Chuck Prophet,** a veteran San Francisco–based singer-songwriter who has cowritten a number of hit songs with Dan Penn and has worked with everyone from Bebe Neuwirth and Kelly Willis to the late Warren Zevon. *7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $17.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"The Production Line": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 9 p.m.

"The Sweet Spot with Eye Candy": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 10 p.m.

"Rap it Up": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Iraq in Fragments" (James Longley, 2006). *Opens March 11.* Documentary about Iraq's fall into turmoil and instability since the toppling of Saddam Hussein. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"The Lives of Others"** (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006). See 9 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

12 MONDAY

Social Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *March 12 & 26.* All seniors age 55 & older invited to play this popular bridge format. No partner required. *12:45–3:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $1. 769–5911.*

★**"Cover-Up: French Gender Equality and the Islamic Headscarf": U-M Center for European Studies "Conversations on Europe."** Talk by Institute for Advanced Study (Princeton, New Jersey) social science professor Joan Wallach Scott. *4–6 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.*

★**"Paved Roads Country Roads Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Monday beginning March 12.* Fast-, moderate-, and slow-paced training ride, 18–24 miles, along country roads west of town. *5:30 p.m., meet at Royster Clark, 885 Parker Rd. at Pine Cross Lane (just south of Jackson Rd.), Scio Twp. Free. 426–5116.*

★**The Barony of Cynnabar.** *Every Monday except March 5.* All invited to join this local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism to work on re-creating different aspects of medieval culture, including combat, dancing, singing, clothing, and many other arts & crafts. *7 p.m., 1311 EECS, 1301 Beal, North Campus. Free. Information at cynnabar.org.*

★**"Pet and Wildlife Photo Contest": Ann Arbor District Library.** Announcement of the winners of this photo contest for youth and teens. Awards in 4 categories (grades k–2, 3–5, 6–8, & 9–12). Entries accepted through 9 p.m. on March 8. *7–8 p.m., AADL main library youth department. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Gentle Detox and Weight Loss": Wholistic Doctor.** Talk by local chiropractor Shannon Dicks. *7–8 p.m., Nutritional Healing Centers of Ann Arbor, 3610 W. Liberty. Free. Preregistration requested. 302–7575.*

★**"Facing the Challenges of 21st Century Family Life": U-M Center for the Child and the Family.** *March 12 & 27.* Today: local social worker Eileen Bond discusses **"Taming Tantrums and Building Self-Esteem."** Also this month: local psychologist Jamie Plunkett on **"Marital Survival Skills"** (March 27). *7–8:30 p.m., UCCF, 530 Church St. Free. 764–9466.*

★**"The Most Talked-About Man in the Country: Elmer Ellsworth": Ann Arbor Area Civil War Round Table.** Belleville storyteller and Abe Lincoln reenactor Fred Priebe discusses this Union colonel, the first man to fall for the Union cause. *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Free. 930–0617.*

★**Ruth Weisberg: EMU University Art Gallery.** This veteran painter and printmaker, a U-M grad and former EMU professor, discusses her career, with a focus on her large installation paintings and drawings. In conjunction with an exhibit of her works (see Galleries). *7 p.m., EMU Student Center Auditorium, 900 Oakwood (off Washtenaw) EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–0465.*

★**"Modern Dance": Peter Sparling Dance Company.** U-M dance professor Peter Sparling gives a talk on modern dance, illustrated by video projections and short dance demonstrations. Also, a preview of the troupe's upcoming Home Season (see 22 Thursday listing). *7 p.m., Dance Gallery Studio, 815 Wildt St. Free. 747–8885.*

★**"Special Needs Planning for SSI, SSDI, Medicare, and Medicaid: Protecting Your Assets": National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Washtenaw County.** Talk by a Legacy Law Center representative TBA. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Free. 994–6611.*

★**"Mad about Chamber Music": Kerrytown Concert House.** *March 12, 19, & 26.* The first of 6 spring concerts featuring U-M Music School and Residential College students. Today: U-M Collaborative Piano Performance Program grad students play works by Schumann and Brahms. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 769–2999.*

Jeffrey Foucault: The Ark. Young Wisconsin-based American roots-music singer-songwriter known for wry, deftly poetic lyrics and rich-toned fingerstyle guitar accompaniment. His work has won praise from the likes of Greg Brown and Chris Smither, and *No Depression* calls him "the bard of small-town anywhere." His 2004 CD *Stripping Cane* is a collection of stark explorations of emotional polarities, and his 2006 CD *Ghost Repeater* is a collection of country and blues songs, written with blues guitarist Bo Ramsey, exploring the hopefulness of new love and the seasickness of contemporary American living. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $13.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

FILMS

MTF. "The Lives of Others" (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006). See 9 Friday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA. **U-M Max Kade Film Screenings. "Kebab Connection"** (Sinan Akkus & Anno Saul, 2005). Screwball romantic comedy about 2 fast food stands—one Turkish, one Greek—a frustrated filmmaker, the coolest commercial of all time, forbidden romance, and a centuries-old Aegean rivalry. German, subtitles. FREE. 764–5018. Max Kade house (Baits II, 1440 Hubbard, North Campus), 7–10 p.m.

13 TUESDAY

★**Melissa Kesterson: Good Thyme Garden Club.** Talk on a topic TBA by this Project Grow and Community Gardens executive director. *10 a.m., Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 332–4791.*

Distinguished Lecture Series: U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Seventh in a series of 9 monthly lectures by different U-M scholars. Open to all age 55 & older. Today: U-M psychiatry professor Randolph Nesse discusses **"New Science of Darwinian Medicine: Why Didn't Natural Selection Make Us Better?"** *10–11:30 a.m., Best Western Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $50 (members, $35) for the 9-lecture series, $25 (members, $10) per lecture. Memberships are $15 a year. 998–9351.*

★**Group Drumming and Singing: U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** *March 13 & 27.* All seniors invited to join music and health consultant Diane Baker for singing, drumming, and dancing. Drums provided. *10:30–11 a.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**"The Bio-Politics of HIV/AIDS in Postapartheid South Africa": U-M Center for the Education of Women.** Talk by U-M sociology grad student Claire Decoteau. *Noon–1:30 p.m., CEW, 330 E. Liberty. Free. 998–7080.*

★**"Weakness of Belief": U-M Philosophy Department.** Talk by Oxford University philosophy fellow Myles Burnyeat. *4–6 p.m., location TBA. Free. 764–6285.*

★**"Tang Junyi and the Very 'Idea' of Confucian Democracy": U-M Center for Chinese Studies Tang Junyi Lecture Series.** University of Hawaii philosophy professor Roger Ames discusses the work of the great 20th-century Chinese philosopher. *4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–6308.*

★**"Wireless Integrated Microsystems: Sparking Breakthroughs in Health Care and the Global Environment": U-M Annual Henry Russel Lecture.** Lecture by U-M electrical engineering and computer sciences professor Kensall Wise. The Russel Award is the U-M's highest honor, awarded annually to a faculty member who is especially distinguished in his or her field. Reception follows. *4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 647–7906.*

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13 TUESDAY *continued*

★**Books and Coffee: Concordia University.** Concordia psychology professor Amy Bennett leads a discussion of ***The Paradox of Choice: Why More Is Less,*** Barry Schwartz's examination of how we cope, or fail to, with the overwhelming number of choices in our lives. Coffee. *4 p.m., Concordia University Riverside Conference Room, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–7537.*

★**"Color, Spontaneity, and Technique in Design": Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild.** Talk by Michigan fiber artist and sculptor Geary Jones. *6:30 p.m., St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Free. 425–1326.*

"Cinema Slam": Michigan Theater Foundation. A lively, entertaining 2-hour smorgasbord of films made by Ann Arborites, from VHS home movies to 35 mm films by independent filmmakers. All invited to submit a film in VHS, DVD, or Beta format. "It's not a film till someone sees it!" Followed by an informal reception with the filmmakers at Espresso Royale on State Street. *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. $5. 646–9364.*

★**"Citizenship": Ann Arbor District Library.** Panel discussion with 2007 *Ann Arbor News* Citizen of the Year **Albert Berriz** and former Citizens of the Year **David Lutton, Bill Martin,** and **Letitia Byrd.** Moderated by *Ann Arbor News* editor Ed Petykiewicz. In conjunction with 2007 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 26 Monday *Mountains Beyond Mountains* listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & older invited to discuss Toni Morrison's Pulitzer Prize–winning novel ***Beloved,*** an examination of slavery that involves the ghost of a murdered child who haunts the home of a former slave. Refreshments. *7–9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

★**Susan Hutton: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This local poet, a U-M creative writing grad, reads from her debut book ***On the Vanishing of Large Creatures,*** a collection of disjunctive, quietly surprising meditations on the ways our action and language are eluded by the very realities they disclose. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**"Playfest 2007": U-M Theater and Drama Department.** *March 13–18.* A series of free rehearsed staged readings of plays by students of U-M theater professor Charles "OyamO" Gordon, a well-known playwright who moderates postperformance critiques. Today: Zach Lupetin's ***Gun,*** a drama about 2 young best friends, a boy and a girl, who get together to see if he can shoot her with his father's gun. *7 p.m., Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Studio One, 1226 Murfin. Free. 764–5350.*

★**"The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals": Sierra Club Book Club.** All invited to discuss Michael Pollan's acclaimed study of the destructiveness of the way food is grown by modern agribusiness. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–1157.*

★**Chopin Piano Series: U-M School of Music.** See 6 Tuesday. Today: Arthur Greene performs a rondo. Also, Dmitri Vorobiev performs *Souvenir de Paganini*, Kay Zavislak performs *Andante Spianato* and *Grande Polonaise Brillante,* Rajung Yang performs a sonata, Jihun Cho and Christina Thayer each perform a waltz, Noel McRobbie performs 3 waltzes, Xiaofeng Wu performs 4 mazurkas and 2 etudes, and Olga Cleianchina performs a polonaise, a waltz, a march, and a nocturne. The program begins with a talk by U-M music theory professor Kevin Korsyn. 7:30 p.m.

Bitch & the Exciting Conclusion: The Ark. An offbeat mix of everything from ukulele rock to hoedown funk poetry on electric violin and African drums by this female duo (formerly known as Bitch & Animal) that's been described as a cross between Laurie Anderson, John Cale, and the Roches. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $13.50 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

The Colour: The Blind Pig. *All ages admitted.* Anthemic, big-beat postpunk rock 'n' roll by this L.A. quartet. Opening acts TBA. *8:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

FILMS

MTF. "The Lives of Others" (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006). See 9 Friday. Mich., times TBA. Other Michigan Theater films TBA. **WCBN-FM. "Wattstax"** (Mel Stuart, 1973). Award-winning documentary about a 1972 festival, organized by

Liesel Litzenburger
Up north, and farther north

I'm a sucker for books placed in northern Michigan. That's simply because the area that begins somewhere north of Traverse City and keeps moving north across the straits and then across Lake Superior to Canada and down the rivers toward Hudson Bay—that whole area of water and forest—has become my standard for a beautiful landscape. But I'm proprietary about my landscape: I'm hard on a book that doesn't get it right.

Liesel Litzenburger, native of Harbor Springs, gets it right. Her novel *The Widower* is often beautifully heartbreaking. As it follows its battered characters from tragedy to the first glimmers of redemption, it places her interesting people exactly within their environment. By the third chapter, Litzenburger has established her method for telling her story. We know by then that this novel will be told in episodes that move through four or five major characters and that these episodes will jump from the present to various places in the past.

Swanton Robey and his wife have gone off a turn above Lake Michigan on a cold January evening and have crashed onto the ice below. The wife is dead, and Swan almost so. So *The Widower* begins. As Robey begins his years of recovery, we begin to learn the stories of the people who cluster around him, to help him, knowingly or not, as he learns to live and to love again. Litzenburger carries her story along with a memorably lyric prose, one that is good with character but often exquisite with landscape. Just listen to this short passage, taken from near the end of the novel:

It's 10:38 a.m. and they've been up and driving since six, coffee in Styrofoam cups, then the motel sign falling away in the rearview mirror, replaced by a wall of trees, dense forests melting into hills, slopes of rolling green, the lake disappearing around a curve. Then a fence sliding down the edge of a huge expanse, open field, the bottom marked by a wide, flat valley, one river, two, crossing, recrossing. The landscape moving with them, against them, a shifting kaleidoscope, tipping and turning, all shape and color, backdrop.

What really matters, of course, is how Litzenburger puts all of this together in the life of her characters. Episode by episode, their various stories become clear, their connections with each other more certain and more necessary. A quiet and, to my mind, quite realistic undertone of magic helps these

characters discover each other and learn their roles in their small community of suffering and redemption. That tone, the people, and the place where they live combine to make *The Widower* a book that will live in its readers' imaginations. And, yes, it will live more completely for those of us who share its author's love of the northern landscape.

Liesel Litzenburger reads from *The Widower* and more recent work at the U-M's Residential College Auditorium on Thursday, March 8.

—Keith Taylor

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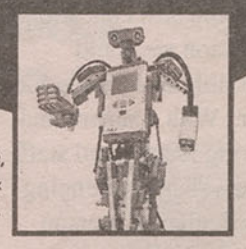

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14 WEDNESDAY

"Pi Day": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum Family Day. All invited to celebrate the irrational number pi—ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter—with hands-on activities and experiments. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. $7 (members & infants, free) regular museum admission. 995–5439.*

Spring Concert: Society for Musical Arts. Performances by the 13– to 17-year-old winners of the society's recent Youth Music Competition, whom an organizer calls "wonders." Followed by an a la carte lunch (cost varies; reservations required at 302–0070) with the artists. *10:30 a.m., Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $12 (accompanying friend, $10; students, $5) at the door only. 663–6366.*

★**"After School Is Cool: Design Indian Rangoli": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids age 9 & up invited to try this popular art form from India by grinding white powder and exotic colors together to make beautiful designs. Materials provided. *4–5 p.m., AADL youth story center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"Redefining the European Union: Why It Matters to the U.S.": U-M Center for European Studies Distinguished Lecture on Europe.** Talk by former German foreign minister and vice-chancellor **Joschka Fischer.** *4 p.m., Michigan League Ballroom. Free. 647–2743.*

★**Scientific Ocean Drilling, International Politics, and Domestic Public Policy": U-M Exhibit Museum.** Talk by Joint Oceanographic Institutions president Steven Bohlen. Reception follows. *5 p.m., Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–0478.*

★**Dennis O'Driscoll: U-M English Department.** Reading by this iconoclastic, humorous, award-winning Irish poet whose work examines the culture of business, office absurdities, and pretentiousness in general. One poem lists the moments when secularists miss God: "during the civil wedding/when, at the blossomy altar/of the registrar's desk, we wait in vain/to be fed a line containing words/like 'everlasting' and 'divine.'" One critic compares O'Driscoll to Seamus Heaney for his "talent for presenting the view of life's moments usually ignored." *5 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 615–3710.*

★**"West Side Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Wednesday beginning March 14. Slow/moderate-paced ride, 22–25 miles, and a slow-paced ride, 12–17 miles, to the Dexter Dairy Queen and back. Now in its 29th year, this ride is a favorite with newcomers and casual riders. 6:30 p.m. sharp, meet at Sweepster parking lot, 2800 N. Zeeb Rd. Free. 426–5116 (longer ride), 665–4552 & 761–2659 (shorter ride).*

★**Ann Arbor Magic Club.** All amateur and professional magicians invited to an evening of socializing and discussion of the magical arts. *7 p.m., Georgetown Country Club, 1365 King George Blvd. Free. 482–9523.*

★**"Steelhead Fishing in Western Michigan": Trout Unlimited.** Talk by Pere Marquette River Lodge guide Tommy Lynch. *7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 426–2975.*

★**"Homeopathy": Whole Foods Market.** Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Feldt. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975–4500.*

★**"The Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative": Women Progressive Activists.** Talk by Mary King, coordinator of the Washtenaw County Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative. *7 p.m., Church of the Good Shepherd, 2145 Independence. Free. 662–1563.*

"The Top 25 Products": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's cofounder Ari Weinzweig discusses and offers taste samples of his choice for the best 25 products Zingerman's has featured since it was founded 25 years ago. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs kids room), 422 Detroit St. Price TBA. Space limited; reservations required. 663–3354.*

★**"Common Sense Forestry: Personal Experience Managing a Small Woodland": Wild Ones.** Talk by former Chicago restaurateur and self-made forester Hans Morsbach. *7 p.m., 125 U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1600 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 769–6981.*

★**"Emergency Communications and Public Service Activities": Arrow Communication Association Amateur Radio Club.** Talk by club member Ed Thierbach. Preceded by "ragchewing and socializing." *7 p.m., Washtenaw Community College room BE 182, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free to visitors ($25 annual dues). 930–6564.*

★**"Mandatory HPV Vaccinations of Michigan 6th-Grade Girls?": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M OB/GYN professor Timothy Johnson moderates a panel discussion with local medical experts, political leaders, and community members on the controversial proposed legislation to require that all girls entering 6th grade be vaccinated against the human papilloma virus. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"Vukovar: The Final Cut": U-M Center for Russian & East European Studies.** Screening of Janko Baljak's 2006 documentary about the 1991 siege of the Croatian city of Vukovar by the Yugoslav army during the Croatian War of Independence. Serbian, subtitles. *7 p.m., Angell Hall A. Free. 764–0351.*

★**Chimamanda Adichie: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This O. Henry Prize-winning Nigerian fiction writer reads from ***Half of a Yellow Sun,*** her new novel about the lives of 3 people thrown together amid the turbulence of the Nigerian Civil War—a 13-year-old houseboy for a university professor full of revolutionary zeal, the professor's beautiful and idealistic mistress, and a shy young Englishman in love with her twin sister. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** See 7 Wednesday. Tonight: poetry readings by **Ryan Flaherty** and **Kawita Kandpal.** 7–9:30 p.m.

★**"Playfest 2007": U-M Theater and Drama Department.** See 13 Tuesday. Tonight: Jonathan Parkey's ***Sun Valley Springs Church of Christ,*** a touching drama about a boy's struggle to cope with the imperfections of his conservative family and the southern community he lives in. 7 p.m.

★**"Going to the 2006 Chelsea Flower Show": Garden Club of Ann Arbor.** Talk by club member Betty Bishop. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 994–0747.*

★**History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** Historian-writer Marsha Ackermann leads a discussion of ***Past Imperfect: Facts, Fictions, Fraud—American History from Bancroft and Parkman to Ambrose, Bellesiles, Ellis, and Goodwin,*** Peter Charles Hoffer's examination of incidents of lying and plagiarism committed by historians. *7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 111 E. Ann. Free. 369–2499.*

★**Fiction Readers Group: Barnes & Noble.** All invited to join a discussion of ***A Prayer for Owen Meany,*** John Irving's luminous, engrossing novel about a shared childhood between a New England boy and his strange, wise friend. TBA. Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 973–0846.*

★**Harpsichord Studio Recital: U-M School of Music.** Performances by students of U-M harpsichord professor Edward Parmentier. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Moore Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

★**Concert Band: U-M School of Music.** Rodney Dorsey directs this music-student ensemble in J. S.

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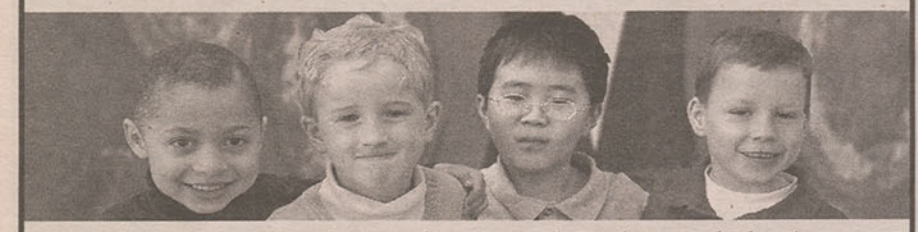

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14 WEDNESDAY *continued*

Bach's Fantasia in G and *Ostinato Fantastico,* Dello Joio's *Fantasies on a Theme by Haydn,* Hummel's Octet in E-flat, and Daniel Welcher's *Shaker Collection. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0583.*

Ensemble Caprice: Kerrytown Concert House. This Montreal-based quartet renowned for its innovative interpretations of Baroque music performs Parisian contredanses, Venetian balletti, and works by Theodor Schwartzkopff and Italian composers Sebastiano Bodino and Signor Detri. Members are harpsichordist Erin Helyard, cellist Susie Napper, and recorder players Matthias Maute and Sophie Larivière. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10, $15, & $25. Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

Tamango's Urban Tap: University Musical Society. Tamango is the stage name of Herbin Van Cayseele, internationally acclaimed tap virtuoso from French Guiana known for his speed, pinpoint control, lightness, and visually spectacular shows. He and his tap ensemble perform *Bay Mo Dilo [Give Me Water],* a fiery multimedia mix of tap dancing, video projections, poetry, a DJ, and percussion and costumes influenced by Tamango's Creole heritage. "*Bay Mo Dilo* is like a long, incantatory dream, a percussive ritual built around Tamango's electrifying tap dancing," says a *Miami Herald* critic. "Rhythm shimmers up from the floor and into [Tamango's] limbs, until it seems his feet and the beats they make are moving him, and not the other way around." *Related event:* an interview with Tamango on March 13 at 3 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $18–$36 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "The Lives of Others" (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006). See 9 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

15 THURSDAY

★**Remy and Arianna Loumbrozo: Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild.** This New York City duo gives a lecture-recital on four-hand piano music. *10 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 994–9198.*

"Nonviolent Communication": Washtenaw Area Council for Children. Talk by area communication facilitator Martha Young. *Noon–2 p.m., Washtenaw Intermediate School District Vogel B, 1819 S. Wagner. $15 (students, $10) includes buffet lunch. Preregistration required. 434–4215.*

★**"ROTC Program": Daughters of the American Revolution.** Talk by a speaker TBA. Also, the distribution of the DAR ROTC medal to U-M ROTC members. *1 p.m., Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975–1976.*

★**"Photography": International Neighbors.** All area women invited to share their expertise as photographers and bring some photos to exhibit. International Neighbors is a 48-year-old group of local women organized to welcome women from other countries during their stays in Ann Arbor. Nursery care provided for preschoolers; transportation can be arranged. Refreshments; attendees may bring a snack from their tradition to share. *1–2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 429–7445.*

★**"Higher Ground: New Hope for the Working Poor and Their Children": National Poverty Center/U-M School of Public Policy.** Northwestern University (and former U-M) social policy professor Greg Duncan discusses his new book. Reception follows. Signing. *4–5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615–5312, 764–3490.*

★**"The Bayeux Tapestry and the Ends of History": U-M Romance Languages & Literatures.** Yale University French professor Howard Bloch discusses this tapestry from the Bayeux Cathedral in Normandy depicting the Battle of Hastings. *4–6 p.m., Rackham East Conference Room (2nd floor). Free. 764–5344.*

★**"Marie Antoinette, Queen of Fashion": U-M Center for European Studies "Conversations on Europe."** Barnard College French and Romance philology professor Caroline Weber discusses her critically acclaimed new book *Queen of Fashion: What Marie Antoinette Wore to the Revolution,* a study of the French queen's use of fashion to establish her personal freedom and secure political power. *4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.*

★**"Replacing Meat": U-M Turner Geriatrics Center.** *Every Wednesday.* All seniors invited to learn about a variety of low-fat, high-fiber vegetarian sources of protein that are loaded with nutrients that help resist cancer. *4:30–6 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. Preregistration required. 998–9353.*

★**Joe Wenderoth: EMU English Department Bathhouse Reading Series.** Reading by this University of California-Davis English and creative writing professor, a poet, fiction writer, and essayist best known for *Letters to Wendy's,* a collection of prose poems that purport to have been written on Wendy's comment cards. His forthcoming book, *Agony: A Proposal,* is a series of prose poems about a televised game played by 3 teams, the Gods, Talk Radio, and the Animals. *5 p.m., Sponberg Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–1310.*

★**"Big Thinking at the Small Design Firm": U-M School of Art and Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series.** David Small discusses the history of his company, which creates innovative ways for information to be displayed on and assimilated from computers. *5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 936–2082.*

★**Auction Preview: Greenhills School.** A chance to preview and bid on items in the school's annual auction. Also, fun family carnival games, a light buffet dinner, live music by the school's jazz band, a cakewalk ($1), and the Big Wheel Game ($5). The auction takes place at 5:15 p.m. on March 17 ($100 in advance only). *5:30 p.m., Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center, 8768 North Territorial Rd., Plymouth. Free. 205–4081.*

★**Ann Arbor Society for Origami.** All invited (children & adults) to learn about and try their hand at origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. *7–9:30 p.m., Great Oaks Cohousing Common House, 500 Little Lake Dr. (off Parkland from Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. 975–4669.*

★**"Cardiac Disease and Health."** *March 15 & 22 (different locations).* Talk by local holistic health care practitioner Malcolm Sickels. *7 p.m., Whole Foods Market, 3135 Washtenaw (Mar. 15), & Touchstone Cohousing meeting room (Mar. 22). Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500 (Mar. 15), 332–9936 (Mar. 22).*

★**"The Local United Plant Savers Group": People's Food Co-op.** Local herbalist Mary Light discusses the local chapter of this group dedicated to helping our therapeutic plants thrive in both urban and rural areas locally. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

★**"Attracting Bluebirds": Wild Birds Unlimited.** Slide-illustrated talk by former Wild Birds Unlimited owner Kurt Hagemeister on how to attract bluebirds to your yard with houses, food, water, and plantings. Refreshments. *7 p.m., Wild Birds Unlimited, Woodland Plaza, 2204 S. Main at Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. Reservations required. 665–7427.*

★**"Religious Perspectives on Peacemaking: An Interfaith Panel Discussion": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice.** Panel discussion by speakers TBA. *7–9 p.m., Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Free. 663–1870.*

★**"Synagogue Vigils": Jewish Witnesses for Peace and Friends.** Panel discussion with 5 of the people who have been holding vigils outside Beth Israel Congregation every Saturday for the past 3 years. Q&A. *7–8:45 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 663–3649.*

2007 Ann Arbor Youth Poetry Slam: Neutral Zone. Readings by youth poets battling ferociously for one of the coveted 6 spots on the Ann Arbor Youth Poetry Slam Team, which competes in San Jose in July. The semifinals (free admission) are held at 7 p.m. at Huron (March 8), Community (March 9), and Pioneer (March 13) high schools. *7 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington St. $8 (students, $5). 214–9995.*

★**Sarah Manguso: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This Brooklyn poet, a Pratt Institute writing professor, reads from ***Siste Viator,*** a collection of poems, at once accessible and irreducibly mysterious, that blend the gravity of epitaphs with strikingly odd perspectives, often replacing lines with aphoristic sentences. "Grim, desperate, and funny, Manguso returns to death as terror and comfort. Crisp and lively, her poetry captures the extremes of this 'sweet hard life,'" says *Village Voice* critic Rachel Aviv. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**"Playfest 2007": U-M Theater and Drama Department.** See 13 Tuesday. Tonight: Nami Mun's ***Avon,*** a stark, funny, and achingly sad drama about a runaway teen's door-to-door attempts to eke out a life on the streets of Brooklyn. 7 p.m.

★**"Sufi Healing, Meditations, & Whirling": Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers.** A program of rumi music, silent meditation, and open whirling. *7:30*

p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers, 2007 S. State. Free. Preregistration requested. 945–8602.

★"Stories of Healing": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon. Talk by local homeopathic practitioner Lev Linkner, a founding member of the American Holistic Medical Association. Followed by discussion. *7:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757, 665–9160.*

★"Ann Arbor Area Archaeology": Michigan Archaeological Society. Talk by Henry Wright. *7:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum Paleontology Classroom, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 995–8806.*

★"Passion on All Sides: Planning a Memorial Museum at Ground Zero": U-M Museum Studies "Exhibiting Controversy" Colloquium. Talk by World Trade Center Memorial Museum director Alice Greenwald. *7:30 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Room. Free. 936–6678.*

"Ashen": Nightfire Dance Theater. This self-styled local "nouveau gypsy" performance troupe presents its dance theater piece blending freeform dance with percussion and spoken word and set against the backdrop of a video installation by **Beili Liu,** a tribute to the imperiled ash trees of the Great Lakes that also examines the unexpected beauty of the ash borers' tracings in the wood. Nightfire's dance suite cycles through symbolic seasons in movements inspired both by the natural history and rich mythology of the ash and the life cycle and motions of the insect. The score includes percussion by Chip Lind, Andrew Anderson's performance of Soong Fu Yuan's *Poems for Piano,* and poetry and spoken word performances by local poet Esther Hurwitz. The performance concludes with a group dance in which the audience is invited to participate. *7:30 p.m., Vitosha Guest Haus Concert Hall, 1917 Washtenaw. $3–$15 suggested donation; kids free. 996–1772.*

"The Bartered Bride": U-M Opera Theater Department. *March 15–18.* Joshua Major directs U-M opera students in Smetana's entertaining light opera, a celebration of rural life and love set in a small Czech village. The story concerns 2 young lovers who want to marry, but the girl's parents hire a marriage broker to arrange her betrothal to the son of a wealthy landowner. When the boy barters with the broker not to contest the arrangement, the girl's heart is broken—but the arrival of a traveling circus initiates a series of surprising reversals. From its famous fugal overture to the boisterous choruses and dazzling duets, the score mixes infectious folk rhythms and poignant characterization. Czech, English supertitles. Andrew George conducts the University Philharmonia Orchestra. *7:30 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $16 & $22 (students, $9) at the Michigan League Box Office in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament": Improv Inferno. See 1 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

Michael Straus: Kerrytown Concert House. This Johns Hopkins University saxophone and computer music grad student performs new music accompanied by a blend of film projections, prerecorded electronic music, and percussion by an amplified coffee pot. Program: Toon Vandevorst's *The Best Part of Waking Up . . . ,* Terry Riley's *Dorian Reeds,* Peter Swendsen's *A Sudden Change in the Consistency of Snow,* Judith Shatin's *Grito del Corazon,* Jacob ter Veldhuis's *Billie,* and the world premiere of Matthew Burtner's *(dis)Locations. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10 (students, $5). Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

Mady Kouyate & The Heat of Africa: The Ark. Various styles of West African music by this local ensemble of 5 musicians and 2 dancers led by Kouyate, a Senegalese-born, Malian-trained singer-musician who plays the kora, a 21-string gourd that produces a sound somewhere between that of a lute and a harp. Their repertoire includes folktales with traditional melodies performed in the traditional style, with kora and percussion, and in contemporary dance-pop arrangements with a band that also features guitar, bass guitar, and viola. *8 p.m., The Ark. $20 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"The Tempest": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. *March 15–18.* David Andrews directs local actors in Shakespeare's culminating work, a visionary romance set on a magical island ruled by the enigmatic but benevolent sorcerer Prospero and his beautiful daughter Miranda. Prospero is in fact the exiled duke of Milan, who conjures a storm that shipwrecks his old enemies upon his island. The Tempest is filled with verse and song (including the famous "Full fathom five") and contains some of Shakespeare's most gorgeously haunting poetry. The cast includes David Keren, Mitch Gillett, Dina Vovsi, Brodie Brockie, Jeremy Salvatori, Gordon Barnett, and Brittany Batell. *8 p.m., Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $20 (students & seniors, $17; Thursday, $13) in advance and at the door. 971–2228.*

Wynton Marsalis & Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra: University Musical Society. Lincoln Center artistic director Marsalis, a Pulitzer Prize–winning composer-trumpeter, leads the orchestra in a program that includes Wild Bill Davis's arrangement of "April in Paris," Miles Davis and Gil Evans's arrangement of "Summertime," and other classic arrangements of jazz favorites. "One rarely hears this music played with such technical brilliance, stylistic authenticity, and tonal sheen," says a *Chicago Tribune* critic. "Here were the throaty reeds, percussive trumpet blasts, and visceral sense of swing that have made the [ensemble] the greatest large jazz ensemble working today." *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$70 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Mike Green: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *March 15–17.* This popular young comic, winner of the 2004 Michigan Comedy Survivor competition, performs with a nervous energy that regularly explodes into bizarre observations and goofy enlightenments about jumping rope, talking sirens, bar codes, and other pointless things you've never stopped to think about. "If you liked the kid in the lunchroom who made you spit milk out your nose, you'll love Mike Green," says the *Detroit Free Press.* Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; all 8 p.m. Friday shows are nonsmoking shows. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

FILMS

Projectorhead. "Sofie" (Liv Ullmann, 1992). An emotionally sheltered Jewish woman in 1886 Copenhagen follows her parents' advice and marries her dull cousin while trying to ignore her attraction to a painter. Based on the Henri Nathansen novel. Swedish, subtitles. FREE. 615–0445. Modern Languages lecture room 2 (812 E. Washington). 7 p.m.
Michigan Theater Foundation. "The Italian" (Andreĭ Kravchuk, 2005). *March 15–19.* Heartbreaking, gritty portrait of a 6-year-old Russian orphan boy who tries to escape the seamy and corrupt world of the orphanage. Based on a true story. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"The Lives of Others"** (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006). See 9 Friday. Mich., times TBA.

16 FRIDAY

Builders Home and Improvement Show: Home Builders Association of Washtenaw County. *March 16–18.* Over 200 area exhibitors show and demonstrate products and offer information on services for the home. This year's special exhibit is a landscape with decks, a series of waterfalls, and a large gazebo in building F. New this year are woodburners that burn corn pellets. Also, exhibits on home electronics, granite countertops, gutter helmets, pet containment systems, mantels, timber framing, and more. Concessions. *3–9 p.m. (Mar. 16), 10 a.m.–8 p.m. (Mar. 17), & 11 a.m.–5 p.m. (Mar. 18), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $5 (children 12 & under, free). Free parking. For information, call Sue Willis at 996–0100.*

★"Queen of Fashion: What Marie Antoinette Wore to the Revolution": Liberty Borders. Barnard College French professor Caroline Weber discusses her engaging new study (see 15 Thursday). Signing. *4 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 677–6948.*

★U-M Center for South Asian Studies. Talks by U-M faculty. Today: art history professor Daniel Herwitz discusses **"A Change of the Past in Modern Indian Art."** Also this month: architecture professor Rahul Mehrotra on **"Architecture and Cultural Significance"** (March 30). *5 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–5261.*

★"Acupuncture, a Bridge Between the Ancient and Modern": Whole Foods Market. Talk by local acupuncturist Gary Merel. *7–9 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. *March 16 & 30.* Readings by U-M creative writing instructors and grad students. Today: prose by **Brit Sonnenberg** and poetry by **Katie Hartsock.** *7 p.m., Michigan League Koessler Room. Free. 615–3710.*

★"Playfest 2007": U-M Theater and Drama Department. See 13 Tuesday. Tonight: Seth Moore's ***Call Me Medusa*** (7 p.m.) is a drama about a girl with a deadly STD who spends months as a test subject in an oppressive hospital before being hired by a secret agency to become a sexual assassin by spreading the

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Spring Hockey Classes
Instructor Dale Rominski
Saturdays 10:15am to 11:05am
Saturdays 3-6 years of age
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Saturdays — 10:15am to 11:00am
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disease to corrupt officials and others "who truly deserve it." As she slowly becomes addicted to this direct form of justice, she loses her sense of self and gradually discovers that no one is truly who they claim to be. Jacob McGlaun's ***A Family Play*** (11 p.m.) is a comic drama about a neurotic, sexually repressed Boston man who is hoisted onto the family stage in a way he never expected when he hosts the family Thanksgiving dinner and his roommate insists on being irrepressibly vocal about being gay. 7 & 11 p.m.

★Dave Eggers and Valentino Achak Deng: Ann Arbor District Library. Novelist Eggers and Deng, a Sudanese refugee whose experiences inspired Eggers's award-winning novel *What Is the What*, discuss this story about the "lost boys of Sudan." Also, a reading from the book by Eggers, who also presents a writing and publishing workshop ($50) tomorrow afternoon and is a featured reader tomorrow night at a dinner ($250; couple, $400) to benefit 826michigan (761–3463). Signing. *7:30–9 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

"Introduction to Hip-Hop Theater": Neutral Zone. A performance of a short hip-hop theater piece TBA, followed by talks about the art form by OBIE-winning playwright and director **Danny Hoch,** also a former featured performer on HBO's *Def Poetry*, and by National Poetry Slam champion and Broadway veteran **Marc Bamuthi Joseph**. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington St. $10 (students, $5). 214–9995.*

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Missouri. *7:30 p.m., Crisler Arena, S. State at Hoover. $3 (youths age 12 & under, $1; U-M students, free). 763–2159.*

"Kirtan": A2 Yoga Studio. All invited to join New Jersey-born, L.A.-based Sikh sacred song singer Girish to perform this traditional Sikh liturgical music, based on classical Indian ragas, that combines drumming, guitar playing, and call-and-response lyrics based on verses of the *Sri Guru Granth Sahib*, the main Sikh spiritual text. *8–10 p.m., A2 Yoga, 2450 W. Stadium. $15 in advance, $20 at the door. 216–4006.*

Marshall Chapman: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Ann Arbor debut of this critically acclaimed husky-voiced country-rock singer-songwriter from South Carolina whose songs have been recorded by everyone from John Hiatt and Tanya Tucker to Dion and the Uppity Blues Women. "When I hear Marshall Chapman, I feel panthers of grace rising around me, and this new record of hers is a new magic breeze for those panthers and me," says the veteran critic Nick Tosches in his review of *Mellowicious*, Chapman's first collection of new songs since 1996. Desserts & coffee available. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

Millish: The Ark. Local quartet that plays a brand of Irish-worldbeat fusion that explores the links between traditional Irish music and roots music from Scotland and Brittany, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Spain, and America. Led by All-Ireland champion uilleann piper Tyler Duncan, whose composition "The Mighty Pickle" won 1st place in the open category of the 2005 International Acoustic Music Awards, the band also includes guitarist Jesse Mason, fiddler and mandolinist Brad Phillips, and percussionist Mike Shimmin. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★Performing Arts Technology Showcase: U-M School of Music. A kaleidoscope of electroacoustic music by performing arts technology students. Guest composer is Oberlin College music professor Tom Lopez. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

★"Sins, with All My Heart." *March 16 & 17.* Erin Markey directs U-M art grad student Jim Leija's semiautobiographical romp through the fantastical landscapes of suburban Catholicism and urban night life that explores the intersections of desire and action, camp and tragedy, guilt and liberation in a postqueer, post-AIDS era. *8 p.m., Duderstadt Center video studio, 2281 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764–9537.*

Gilberto Gil: University Musical Society. Solo performance by the king of contemporary Brazilian pop, a 2005 Polar Music Prize-winning singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist who helped create tropicalismo, an eclectic and literate bossa nova-based style that combines folk-rock, jazz, dissonance, spoken word passages, and strident electric guitars. When this radical sound first hit Brazil in 1968, the military government disapproved, and censorship was followed by prison, house arrest, and finally exile. But years later, Brazil recognized its importance and in 2003 appointed Gil minister of culture. Tonight Gil performs cuts from his latest CD, *Luminoso*, that range from works based on the I Ching to tropicalismo pieces. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$60 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

★"Dance Jam": U-M Dance Department. U-M dance and music students join forces to improvise spontaneous performances. *8 p.m., U-M Dance Bldg. Betty Pease Dance Studio, 1310 North University Ct. Free. 763–5460.*

"Spring into Action": People Dancing. This classy local modern dance company performs an eclectic program of modern dance by company founder **Whitley Setrakian Hill,** artistic director **Christina Sears Etter,** and company member **Kerry Allan.** Allan's *(W)Hole*, an improvisational solo with a spoken word score, is performed by guest artist **Stefanie Cohen,** cofounder of the Great Lakes Area Contact Improvisation Enthusiasts Retreat. Etter directs *Three Rings under a Desert Moon*, a new collaborative company work that blends music, visual art, and live and recorded music to explore the image of a circus against the backdrop of events in the Middle East and elsewhere. Also, a re-creation of Setrakian's *The Math of Six* (with music by Iva Bittova) and the premieres of Allan's solo *Music Box* (with a Bobby McFerrin score) and Etter's *Facing East* (with a Lou Harrison score). *8 p.m., Concordia University Kreft Center Black Box Theater, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Tickets $7–$15 in advance, $9–$17 at the door. 995–4612.*

"Gypsy": Saline Area Players. *March 16–18.* Leo Babcock directs local actors in Stephen Sondheim, Jule Styne, and Arthur Laurents's musical based on the autobiography of American burlesque entertainer Gypsy Rose Lee. When a domineering mother hustles her daughters through the vaudeville circuit during the Depression, the girls rebel and run away, ending up in a seedy burlesque house. The show's memorable songs include "Everything's Coming Up Roses," "Let Me Entertain You," and "Together, Wherever We Go." The cast includes Linzi Bokor, Hannah Struppa, Abby Dotz, Ella Babcock, Shannon Kantner, Douglas Harris, and Craig Nichols. *8 p.m., Saline Middle School (old high school) auditorium, 7190 N. Maple Rd. Tickets $15 (students & seniors $12) in advance or at the door. 429–2103.*

"The Bartered Bride": U-M Opera Theater Department. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Tempest": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament & The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Mike Green: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 15 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Grazyna Auguscik: Firefly Club. This widely heralded Polish-born jazz singer-composer from Chicago who sings in an evocative, satiny alto has won acclaim for her long-lined lyrical phrasing, rhythmic authority, muscular arrangements, and precise, jubilant scatting. "Auguscik is a jazz rarity—a vocalist who, by dint of temperament and training, refuses to rely on mere sentimentality," says *Playboy* jazz critic Neil Tesser. She is backed tonight by **Eastern Blok,** a nationally acclaimed Chicago-based Balkan fusion quartet led by guitar virtuoso Goran Ivanovic. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets $15 at the door only. 665–9090.*

Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. See 2 Friday. 9 p.m.–1 a.m.

The Dirty Americans: The Blind Pig. Detroit quartet whose loud, heavy, guitar-driven rock 'n' roll has provoked comparisons to Helmet and the Rollins Band. Opening act is **The Disregarded,** a self-styled "dirt-hop" quartet from Oakville whose music blends American roots music with urban rap, gospel-tinged choruses, and rock 'n' roll energy. *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. $7 (under age 21, $10) at the door only. 996–8555.*

FILMS

MTF. "The Italian" (Andrei Kravchuk, 2005). See 15 Thursday. Mich., times TBA. **"The Lives of Others"** (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006). See 9 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **M-Flicks. "Death to Smoochy"** (Danny DeVito, 2002). Dark comedy about a kids TV host, fired from his job, who becomes obsessed with wreaking vengeance on his successor. Robin Williams, Jon Stewart, Edward Norton. FREE. 763–1107. Natural Sciences auditorium (830 North University), 8 p.m. **U-M Screen Arts & Cultures. "The Last Mimzy"** (Robert Shaye, 2007). When two siblings find a mysterious box of toys, they begin to develop special talents that lead them into a strange and terrifying world. Followed by Q&A with director Shaye and screenwriter Bruce Rubin, both U-M grads. FREE. 764–0147. Michigan Theater, 7:30 p.m.

17 SATURDAY

★"St. Patrick's Day": Conor O'Neill's. This day-long celebration features Irish ceili dancers and bagpipers, along with traditional Irish ballads and drinking songs by the Detroit trio **The Diggers**. *7 a.m.–2 a.m., 318 S. Main. Free. 665–2968.*

★Regional Competition: National Science Olympiad. All invited to watch local middle and high school students compete individually and as teams in different tasks that test contestants' knowledge of physics, biology, earth science, chemistry, meteorology, and technology. The top 2 winners of this regional event go to state-level competition in this Michigan-based national science contest. *8 a.m.–4 p.m., various WCC campus sites, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 973–3630.*

Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild. Minnesota textile historian and quilting tool inventor Darlene Zimmerman, author of *Quilting: The Complete Guide* and several other quilting books, gives a talk on **"Treasures in the Trunk."** Followed at 11 a.m. by a member "show and tell" and sale of quilting supplies, fabrics, and books, and workshops. Also, display of quilts to be donated to SafeHouse. Raffle. Quilters of all abilities invited. Lunch available. *9 a.m.–2 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $10 (members, free). Wheelchair-accessible. 878–6396.*

★"The Soul in Ancient Thought and Cult": U-M Classical Studies Department. A series of talks by U-M, Ohio State, University of Chicago, and visiting European classical scholars. Topics range from **"Memory and the Soul"** and **"Incarnation"** to **"Old and New on the Presocratic Soul"** and **"Signs, Self, and Society: Plato's Conception of Soul in the *Symposium*."** *9 a.m.–5 p.m., Michigan Union Kuenzel Room. Free. 764–0360.*

★"St. Patrick's Day Treats": Busch's Kids Cooking Class. Kids invited to make a take-home treat. *10–11 a.m., Busch's celebration station, 2240 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 998–2666.*

33rd Annual Pioneer Craft Fair: Dexter Area Historical Society. Juried show of more than 55 artists and craftspeople. Modern and traditional folk art. Also, demonstrations of weaving, spinning, quilting, wood carving, lace making, caning, rushing, painting, calligraphy, tinsmithing, broom making, and more. Storytelling and a craft table for kids. Entertainment TBA. Bake sale. Lunch available, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Creekside Elementary School (old Dexter High School), 2615 Baker Rd., Dexter. $3 (children grades 1–12, 50¢; children 5 & under, free). 426–8846.*

★Downtown Home & Garden Spring Lecture Series. *Every Saturday beginning March 17.* Today: Vandenberg Bulb Company (Howell) sales rep Tom Kraft discusses **"The Importance of Pruning Trees and Shrubs."** Also this month: DH&G owner Mark Hodesh discusses **"Fixin' Up Your Lawn"** (March 24), and local master gardener Gwen Reynolds discusses **"Starting Plants from Seed"** (March 31). Also, on March 31 Washtenaw County Extension Service master gardeners are on hand to answer questions and accept soil samples ($15 per sample) for testing. *10 a.m.–2 p.m., DH&G, 210 S. Ashley. Free. 662–8122.*

★"Saturday Morning Physics": U-M Physics Department. *March 17 & 24.* Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M physics professor Christopher Monroe. Today: **"The Physics Behind Music."** Also this month: **"The Music of Quantum Physics"** (March 24). Breakfast refreshments. *10:30–11:30 a.m., 170 Dennison, 501 East University. Free. 764–4437.*

"Big Top Tent Saint Patty's Day Zingfeast": Zingerman's Delicatessen 25th Anniversary Celebration. An all-you-can-eat corned beef and cabbage feast, with hand-sliced corned beef and local cabbages, potatoes, and carrots, along with Zingerman's Bakehouse Irish brown soda bread and Guinness gelato from Zingerman's Creamery. Also, taste samples of Skelligs Irish chocolates. *Noon–7 p.m., Zingerman's tent, 422 Detroit St. $15.99. 663–3400.*

★Orchid Festival: Ann Arbor Orchid Society. *March 17 & 18.* Show and sale of breathtaking orchids and orchid-growing supplies from local growers and vendors. Also, talks and orchid care demos by local orchid growers. *Noon–4:30 p.m. (Mar. 17) & 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (Mar. 18), U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. 998–7061.*

★"Spring Is Here!": Waterloo Recreation Area. Waterloo Recreation Area park interpreter Kathy Ka-

vanagh leads a walk along the Spring Pond Trail to look and listen for signs of spring. The program begins with a short video about the visual cues that signal the imminent arrival of spring. Dress for the weather. *2 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. Free. Preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: $6/day, $24/year ($6/year for seniors age 65 & over). 475–3170.*

"Irish Ceili": Clonlara School. An authentic Irish dinner, followed by traditional Irish music by the local band Mad, Mad O'Malley's. Also, kids activities and a silent auction. *5–10 p.m., Clonlara, 1289 Jewett. $20 (children, $10). Reservations required. 769–4511, ext. 311.*

St. Patrick's Day Dinner: Dixboro United Methodist Church. Succulent corned beef and cabbage, plus beverages and dessert, served family style. Proceeds benefit the church. *5–7 p.m., DUMC, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.). Cost TBA. Reservations requested. 665–5632.*

U-M Men's Lacrosse vs. WMU. *7 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. $6 (students, $3). 764–0247.*

Saline Fiddlers. Ben Culver conducts this renowned Saline High School student touring fiddle ensemble, which plays traditional American fiddle songs, bluegrass, and high-energy American folk. Fiddlers shows always sell out, so get your tickets early. *7:30 p.m., Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker (south of Shield from Baker Rd.), Dexter. Tickets (cost TBA) in advance and at the door. (866) 257–5333.*

★**"Playfest 2007": U-M Theater and Drama Department.** See 13 Tuesday. Tonight: Alex Bisker's ***Perfect Abstraction*** (2 p.m.) is a drama about a prominent gallery owner who has worked hard to create a comfortable order in her life when her boyfriend and current artist-in-residence drop a bombshell on her. Kathryn Gifford's **See** (7 p.m.) is a drama exploring how twisted self-perceptions can wreak havoc on people's lives. 2 & 7 p.m.

★**"Lysistrata": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration.** *March 17 & 18.* U-M drama lecturer Kate Mendeloff directs RC students in Ellen McLaughlin's translation of Aristophanes' comedy about Athenian women who conspire with women throughout Greece to withhold sex from their husbands until they put a stop to the Peloponnesian War. *7:30 p.m., U-M Residential College Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647–4354.*

★**Adult Blues Band: Ann Arbor Music Center.** Ensembles of AAMC adult students perform covers of John Lee Hooker, Howlin' Wolf, Muddy Waters, and other blues singers. *7:30 p.m., Tap Room Annex, 205 W. Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti. Free. 665–0375.*

Peter Madcat Ruth & Shari Kane: St. Clare's Episcopal Church. Benefit performance by the duo of world-class harmonica wizard Peter Madcat Ruth and ace fingerstyle blues guitarist Shari Kane. *7:30 p.m., St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Tickets $15 in advance and at the door. 662–2449.*

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Cobblestone Farm Dancers. Callers Robin Warner and Peter Baker with live music by the Pittsfield Open Band. No partner needed; all dances taught; beginners welcome. Wear cool, casual clothes and comfy, flat, smooth-soled shoes. Preceded at 3–6 p.m. by a free jam for all musicians. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $10. 665–8863.*

Kurt Elling: The Ark. Acclaimed young jazz vocalist from Chicago with a rich, octave-leaping baritone who's been named Male Vocalist of the Year in the *DownBeat* readers poll and the *Jazz Times* critics poll every year since 2000. Elling possesses awesome command of rhythm, texture, phrasing, and dynamics, often sounding more like a virtuoso jazz musician than a mere singer, and his idiosyncratic blend of soulful crooning, scat, vocalese, and spoken-word improvisations provoked Artie Shaw to call him "the most interesting and innovative jazz singer to come along in years." *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $30 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Murray Perahia: University Musical Society. Regarded as one of the world's finest pianists, the New York-born and London-based Perahia is a heralded master of the Bach keyboard repertoire—especially the *Goldberg Variations*—known for his poetic style and his supreme mastery of the smallest stylistic, technical, and dynamic details. In early 2006, a return of the bone spur on his thumb that had sidelined him in the 1990s abated and allowed Perahia to resume his international performances. A *Chicago Tribune* critic called Perahia "an artist who has irrefutably reached the pinnacle of his interpretive powers." Program: Bach's Partita no. 3, Beethoven's Sonatas no. 9 and no. 10, Brahms's Six Piano Pieces, and 3 Chopin

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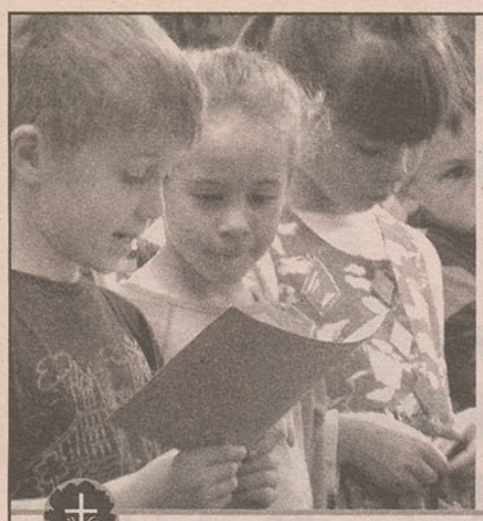

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17 SATURDAY *continued*

pieces: Etude no. 1 in A-flat Major *(Aeolian Harp)*, Etude no. 4 in C-sharp Minor, and Ballade No. 3 in A-flat Major. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. in the U-M Alumni Center by dinner ($40) with a talk by U-M piano professor Louis Nagel. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$70 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

★**"The Big Question."** See 16 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"Sins, With All My Heart."** See 16 Friday. 8 p.m.

"The Bartered Bride": U-M Opera Theater Department. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. Closing night. 3 & 8 p.m.

"The Tempest": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Gypsy": Saline Area Players. See 16 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Mike Green: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 15 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

FILMS

U-M Center for Chinese Studies. "Three Times" (Hou Hsiao-Hsien, 2006). Rapturously beautiful and romantic film about 3 love stories, each set in a different era—a 1966 pool hall, a 1911 brothel, and contemporary Taipei—and each starring the same actors. Taiwanese & Mandarin, subtitles. No children under 12 admitted. FREE. 764–6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A, 7 p.m. **Yankee Air Museum. "The High and the Mighty"** (William Wellman, 1954). When an airplane develops engine problems high over the Pacific and the pilot wimps out, the washed-up copilot takes charge. John Wayne, Claire Trevor, Laraine Day, Robert Stack. Pop and popcorn included. $10 (members, $5). 483–4030. Yankee Air Museum Hangar 2 (1 Willow Run, off Ecorse from Beck Road via I-94 exit 190), 4 p.m. **MTF. "The Lives of Others"** (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006). See 9 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"The Italian"** (Andrei Kravchuk, 2005). See 15 Thursday. Mich., times TBA.

18 SUNDAY

★**"Washtenaw Waterfowl": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** WAS members Dea Armstrong and Cathy Carroll lead a carpool trek to Barton Pond, Ford, Lake, Portage Lake, and other sites around the county to look for and identify waterfowl. Bring a spotting scope if you have one and snacks or a lunch. Dress for uncertain weather. *9 a.m. departure (early afternoon return), meet at Briarwood mall parking lot area #5 (near Sears). Free. 668–2513.*

★**"Masaru Emoto's Messages from Water": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship.** Talk by Winifred Wylie, founder of the first Montessori school in Washtenaw County. *10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 971–8638.*

★**"Stinchfield Woods Hike or Ski": Sierra Club.** All invited to join club members for a moderate-paced 4-mile hike. If it snows, bring your skis. *1 p.m., meet at City Hall parking lot to carpool. Free. 971–1157.*

★**"Carnegie Libraries in Michigan and Across the Country": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by Washtenaw County Historical Society representative Connie Olson. In conjunction with 2007 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 26 Monday *Mountains Beyond Mountains* listing). *1–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"Valorized Whiteness, Denigrated Blackness: (Re)Examining Mestizaness in Filipino America": U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies.** Talk by U-M sociology professor Matthew Andrews. *1:30–3 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0352.*

★**"The Working Woman in Washtenaw County Before 1914": Pittsfield Township Historical Society.** Talk by Susan Nenadic, the researcher for a recent Museum on Main Street exhibit on historic women's clothes. Q&A. *2 p.m., Pittsfield Community Center, 701 W. Ellsworth. Free. 429–4517.*

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All invited for an afternoon of contra and square dancing to live music, with callers John Freeman and David Park Williams and music by David West, Donna Baird, and Mark Williams. Also, "play-party games," popular 19th-century musical games without instrumental accompaniment. *2 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $6 (family, $12). 769–1052.*

"Young People's Concert": Ann Arbor Concert Band. James Nissen directs this local volunteer ensemble in a concert of Holst's subtly complex Second Suite in F for Military Band, Dello Joio's imagistic *Scenes from the Louvre*, selections from Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, Jaromir Weinberger's folksy Polka and Fugue, and Respighi's popular *Pines of Rome. 2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $5; children 12 & under, free). 747–9126.*

★**"Playfest 2007": U-M Theater and Drama Department.** See 13 Tuesday. Tonight: Zach Milovitz's ***True Blues,*** a drama about a Democratic campaign hit by a scandal in the waning days of the 2008 presidential election. 2 p.m.

"The Bartered Bride": U-M Opera Theater Department. See 15 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Gypsy": Saline Area Players. See 16 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"The Tempest": Ann Arbor Civic Theater. See 15 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"Profiles from the Kitchen: What Great Cooks Have Taught Us about Ourselves and our Food": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor.** Grand Valley State University hospitality professor Charles Baker Clark discusses his book. *4–6 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin Ave. Free. 662–8661.*

★**"Child's Play XV: Gone Fishin' ": Friends of Chamber Music in Pease.** EMU music faculty pianists Anne Beth Gajda and Garik Pedersen present their popular annual concert for families with young children. The program includes two- and four-hand piano music by Debussy, Dvorak, Grieg, Liszt, and Mendelssohn. *4–5 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255, 484–3237.*

★**Annual All-Choir Concert: Temple Beth Emeth.** Cantor Annie Rose leads this fast-paced concert of sacred and secular music performed by singers in the Temple Beth Emeth youth, middle and high school, and adult choirs. *4 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard Rd. Free admission. 665–4744.*

★**"Evensong": Boychoir of Ann Arbor.** Boychoir founder Tom Strode directs this local ensemble in a setting of this traditional Anglican liturgy highlighted by Balfour Gardiner's "Te lucis ante terminum," a magnificent setting of the Evening Hymn that features soaring high treble parts, and William Smith's familiar setting of traditional evensong prayers. Also, Psalm 46 ("God is our hope and strength") sung to a chant based on Luther's tune for "A mighty fortress," English composer Bryan Kelly's somewhat jazzy setting of the traditional evensong canticles Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, and anthems by Charles Villiers Stanford, Bob Chilcott, and William Mathias. The 24 trebles of the Boychoir are supplemented by teen members of Cantabile, the Boychoir ensemble of boys ages 11–18 that includes both changed and unchanged voices, along with some men singers. Organ accompanist TBA. *4 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free; donations accepted. 663–5377.*

"Refusing to Be Enemies." Screening of local filmmaker Laurie White's 58-minute documentary about Zeitouna, a local discussion group of Arabic and Jewish women whose focus is the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Followed by Q&A with White and Zeitouna members. *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 761–9700.*

Lesley Gore: The Ark. Until she resurfaced in 2005 as the host of *In the Life*, a PBS show focusing on gay and lesbian issues, Gore had largely disappeared from view after her string of early 60s pop hits like the protofeminist "You Don't Own Me" and "It's My Party (and I'll Cry If I Want To)"—a record that WCBN memorably played continuously for 24 hours the day after the 1980 presidential election. The material on her new CD, *Ever Since* reveals an artist who has matured into a reflective, Carole King–style singer-songwriter. *7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $35 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**"Lysistrata": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration.** See 17 Saturday. 7:30 p.m.

★**"The Visual World of the Rabbis": Beth Israel Congregation.** U-M history and Judaic studies professor Rachel Neis explains the role of the visual in ancient rabbis' rituals, their regulation of gender relations, and their invention of biblical sightseeing. *7:45 p.m., Beth Israel, 2000 Washtenaw. Free. 663–5543.*

★**Karl Pituch: U-M School of Music.** This Detroit Symphony Orchestra principal horn player performs works by John Williams, Strauss, Messiaen, Eugene Bozza, and Charles Koechlin. Accompanist is Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings pianist Angelina Pashmakova. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall,*

children's concerts

Fairy Tales by the AASO

Looking backward

Someday, gathered around a postapocalyptic campfire on the Huron, Ann Arbor's surviving classical music lovers will sit and reminisce about the good old days. The conversation might start when somebody recalls that the University Musical Society used to present the Emerson String Quartet regularly. Then somebody else may mention that Pioneer High School's music department used to win Grammy Awards regularly. Then somebody else may mention that the Ann Arbor Symphony used to present family concerts on Sunday afternoons—and everyone will stop and sigh.

That was way back when Pfizer was still in town, the automobile industry was still in Michigan, and the big money was still in America—or at least enough of it to support something as pointlessly ephemeral and as transcendentally beautiful as classical music.

After a bit, one music lover may start talking about the time in March 2007 when her dad took her to hear the Ann Arbor Symphony twice in the same weekend. From the grown-up concert *(From Russia with Love)* on Saturday night, she recalls hearing Arie Lipsky conduct a shining *Russian Easter Overture* by Rimsky-Korsakov, a glittering Rachmaninoff *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini* with soloist Anton Nel, and a searing Tchaikovsky *Pathétique*. She appreciates only now just how good it was, appreciates especially the *Pathétique*'s passionately despairing tone. What she liked better then—what still makes her tear up now—was the family concert *(Fairy Tales)* on Sunday afternoon.

It wasn't just that the Michigan was filled with kids her age—though she did feel more relaxed not having to sit still all the time. And it wasn't the talking between pieces—even then, she thought that was pretty numb. What it was, of course, was the music.

She'll recall the nimble grace of Rossini's Overture to *The Thieving Magpie*, the elfin energy of Mendelssohn's Scherzo from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and the sweeping, swaying waltzes from Tchaikovsky's *Sleeping Beauty* and Prokofiev's *Cinderella*. She really liked it when Samuel Rast, the horn player from Pioneer High School, played the Allegro from Mozart's First Horn Concerto. And she really, really liked John Williams's Symphonic Suite from the Harry Potter movies. But she just loved the *Firebird* by Stravinsky, loved how the Infernal Dance made her feel really scared, the Lullaby made her feel really safe, and the Apotheosis made her feel really good.

As someone takes the first watch while the rest settle back and try to ignore the unnamable things that go bump in the night, they all remember what it was like when the sweet sound of music filled the air.

The AASO adult and family concerts are Saturday and Sunday respectively, March 10 and 11, at the Michigan Theater. Whatever happens afterward, you'll always have the memories.

—James Leonard

1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"The Production Line": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 9 p.m.

"The Sweet Spot with Eye Candy": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 10 p.m.

"Rap it Up": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "The Lives of Others" (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006). See 9 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"The Italian"** (Andrei Kravchuk, 2005). See 15 Thursday. Mich., times TBA.

19 MONDAY

★"It's All Write: Short Story Writing Contest": Ann Arbor District Library. Today is the deadline for area middle and high school students invited to submit an original short story. Winners announced on May 19 during the Ann Arbor Book Festival. $250, $150, and $100 cash prizes for top 3 winners in 3 age divisions: grades 6–8, grades 9 & 10, and grades 11 & 12. *9 a.m.–9 p.m., AADL main library youth department or any of the 3 branches. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Play Day for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library. *Every Monday beginning March 19.* Play group for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *Note:* Play days are also offered (beginning the week of March 19) at the Pittsfield (Tuesdays, 6:30–7:30 p.m.), Malletts Creek (Tuesdays, 10–11 a.m., & Thursdays, 6:30–7:30 p.m.), and Northeast (Wednesdays, 10–11 a.m.) branches. *10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301 (main library), 327–4200 (branches).*

★"Democracy as a Tragic Regime": U-M Classics Department Modern Greek Program. Lecture by University of Sussex social and political theory research fellow Nathalie Karagiannis. Part of the U-M LS&A Citizenship Theme Year. *3 p.m., 2175 Angell hall. Free. 936–6099.*

★"Reformulating the Nature/Nurture Opposition in Scientific Studies of Race, Gender, and Sexuality": U-M International Institute Science, Technology, & Society Program Distinguished Lecture. Lecture by Brown University biology and gender

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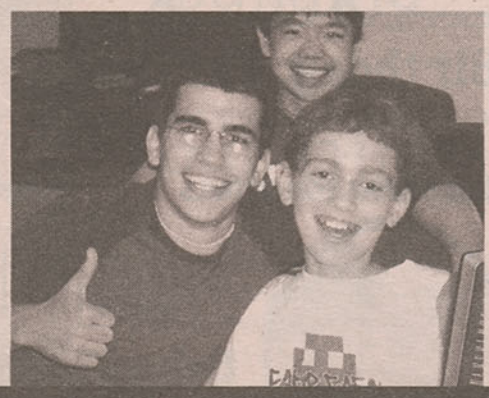

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19 MONDAY *continued*

studies professor **Anne Fausto-Sterling,** author of *Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of Sexuality. 4–5:30 p.m., Palmer Commons Atrium, 100 Washtenaw. Free. 647–3766.*

★**Carolyn Forche: U-M English Department.** Reading by this Detroit-born poet, a George Mason University English professor whose poems range from nerve-wracking portraits of the 80s political scene in El Salvador to semiabstract collages with haunted tones. Her works often depict nature in surprising ways: "Ash over conifers and birches, over berry thickets. Resembling snow and its synonyms," and "language that once sent ravens through firs." Margaret Atwood called Forche's collection *The Country Between Us* "a poetry of courage and passion, which manages to be tender and achingly sensual and what is often called 'political' at the same time." Followed by a reception. Forche also gives a lecture on a topic TBA on March 22 at 5 p.m. in Rackham Amphitheater. *5 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 615–3710.*

★**Ray Manning: U-M College of Architecture & Urban Planning.** *Tentative topic.* This president of New Orleans-based architecture firm Manning Architects discusses the New Orleans rebuilding, in which he is playing a major role. *6 p.m., Art & Architecture Auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764–1300.*

"Chefs 2007": Ann Arbor Summer Festival. Cocktails followed by a multicourse dinner (with a veggie option) prepared by Common Grill owner Craig Common and other area chefs. Wines. Proceeds benefit the festival's Top of the Park programming. *6 p.m., The Common Grill, 112 S. Main, Chelsea. Tickets $140–$175 in advance only. 994–5999.*

★**Embroiderers' Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. *6:45 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues). 426–3903.*

★**"The Art and Lives of Berthe Morisot, Mary Cassatt, and Georgia O'Keeffe": Ann Arbor District Library.** Veteran Detroit singer-songwriter (and longtime art lover) Jan Krist discusses these 3 prominent women Impressionist painters. In conjunction with Women's History Month. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**University Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Kenneth Kiesler conducts this music-student ensemble in Daniel Pesca's *Still and Still Moving,* Sibelius's Symphony no. 2, and Nielsen's Concerto for Flute and Orchestra, with 2007 Concerto Competition-winning flutist **Alaina Bercilla** as soloist. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0583.*

★**"Mad about Chamber Music": Kerrytown Concert House.** See 12 Monday. Today: students of U-M piano professor Christopher Harding perform piano music by a variety of composers. 8 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "The Lives of Others" (Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck, 2006). See 9 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **"The Italian"** (Andrei Kravchuk, 2005). See 15 Thursday. Mich., times TBA.

20 TUESDAY

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Tuesday beginning March 20.* Stories and songs for kids age 2 & up (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered (beginning the week of March 19) at the Malletts Creek (Wednesdays, 10–10:30 a.m.), Pittsfield (Thursdays, 7–7:30 p.m., and Fridays, 10–10:30 a.m.), and Northeast (Thursdays, 10–10:30 a.m.) branches. *10–10:30 a.m., AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301 (main library), 327–4200 (branches).*

"Ornamental Grasses": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Slide-illustrated talk by Matthaei horticulturalist Mike Palmer. Some seedlings available to take home. *6–8 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. $25 (members & U-M students, $20). 647–7600.*

★**"Drummunity!"** Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.*

SpiritSisters Women's Circle. All women invited to discuss spirituality, relationships, empowerment, metaphysics, and healing. Short meditation session. Bring divination tools, if you like. *7 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. $3. 741–0478.*

★**"Choices in Childbirth": Whole Foods Market.** Talk by local midwife Adarsa Antares. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**John Sellers: Liberty Borders.** This freelance writer (and U-M grad), who's contributed to *GQ, Spin, The Atlantic Monthly,* and other publications reads from ***Perfect from Now On: How Indie Rock Saved My Life,*** his exploration of what he loves about indie rock. Also, signing. *7 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 677–6948.*

★**Writers Reading at Sweetwaters.** Local poet **Charlie Zwinak** reads from his new collection and from the work of poets he admires. Followed by open-mike readings for poets and other creative writers. *7–9 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 369–2798.*

★**Bob Tarte: Nicola's Books.** This *Technobeat* columnist from rural Michigan, author of the memoir *Enslaved by Ducks,* discusses ***Fowl Weather,*** another heartwarming account of his animal-filled life. Also, signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Zelda Lockhart: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This African American novelist from North Carolina reads from ***Cold Running Creek,*** her new novel about the lifelong struggle for freedom of a half-Choctaw former slave who was stolen as a child and raised by a plantation mistress who was herself the oldest child of a fugitive band of Choctaw. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

45th Annual Ann Arbor Film Festival. *March 20–25.* The oldest and one of the most prestigious film festivals in North America kicks off tonight with an opening reception (free to ticketholders). The core of the festival is the **competition screenings,** which begin tonight at 8 p.m. and run through March 25. The competition showcases new experimental and independent 16 mm, 35 mm, and digital films and videos in a wide range of genres and of generally high quality—past contributors have included Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, and Brian De Palma. Winning films, which are awarded a total of over $20,000, are shown again at the "Awards Screening" on March 25. The festival also includes (see daily listings) noncompetition evening screening-room shows (March 21–24), free film jams (March 21 & 23), afternoon screenings by festival judges (March 21–23), and a "Banned in Michigan" program (March 24). (See "Rebel with a Cause," p. 000.) *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Festival tickets: $80 for the entire festival in advance at the Michigan Theater; $9 (students, $7; members, $6) per evening show at the door. 995–5356.*

★**"Where the Bison and Biologists Roam: Summer in Yellowstone Park": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Talk by club member Dave Brooks. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 615–0516.*

★**Chopin Piano Series: U-M School of Music.** See 6 Tuesday. Today: Greene performs 4 mazurkas, a nocturne, and an etude. Also, Kay Zavislak performs the *Ludovic Variations,* Angela Wu performs a waltz and a rondo, Khatsko performs a nocturne, and Rebecca Choi performs 5 mazurkas. Lynelle James, Christina Thayer, and Cathal Breslin each perform a nocturne, and Dmitri Vorobiev, Rebecca Choi, Jei-Yern Ryu, and Angela Wu each perform etudes. The program begins with a talk by Abby Anderton. 7:30 p.m.

★**"Art & War: Preparation & Protest": U-M School of Music/Arts on Earth.** *March 20 & 21.* A 90-minute exploration in words, music, visual art, and dance of the use of the arts to prepare for and to protest war. Includes performances by U-M faculty members William Bolcom & Joan Morris, string trio Time for Three, U-M film professor Tirtza Even, and CCNY music professor Jonathan Pieslak, exploring the chilling use of music by American soldiers in Iraq. *7:30 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan League. Free. 764–0583.*

Wild & Wulliman: Kerrytown Concert House. The U-M grad student duo of cellist Chris Wild and violinist Austin Wulliman performs Giacinto Scelsi's Duo, Aaron Einbond's *Inside Out,* Iannis Xenakis's *Hunem-Iduhey,* Eliza Brown's *Elemental,* and Ravel's Sonata for Violin and Cello. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10 (students, $5). Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

Siegel-Schwall Band: The Ark. Legendary Chicago blues band whose country-folk flavored brand of Southside blues helped spark the blues revival of the 60s and early 70s. Led by harmonica genius Corky Siegel and guitarist Jim Schwall, the current lineup also includes former Little Walter and Howlin' Wolf drummer Sam Lay and bassist Rollo Bradford. The band has a new Alligator CD, *Flash Forward.* Opening act is **Marcy Levy** (aka Marcella Detroit), a veteran Detroit blues-rock vocalist with a striking soprano voice. A former member of Bob Seger and Eric Clapton's bands (she cowrote "Lay Down Sally" with Clapton), she is probably best known as a member of Shakespear's Sister in the early 90s. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $22.50 in advance at*

Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.

Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France: University Musical Society. Celebrated conductor-pianist Myung-Whun Chung conducts Radio France's house orchestra, returning 4 years after a local appearance with the ensemble that earned a rapturous audience response. Chung is known for coaxing a huge, dynamic, expressive sound from the ensemble, at what a *New York Times* critic called "veritable rock-concert volume.' " Program: Ravel's *Mother Goose Suite* and Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*, a many-layered work inspired by Thomas de Quincey's hallucinatory *Confessions of an English Opium-Eater. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$75 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival "Competition Screening." See Events listing above. Mich., 8 p.m.

21 WEDNESDAY

"The Morning Edition": Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce. This popular monthly program features a buffet breakfast and a series of 5-minute updates from local business and community leaders. Hosted by Michigan Theater executive director Russ Collins. Speakers TBA. Video replays posted at annarborchamber.org. *7–8:45 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $25 (members, $15). Preregistration requested. 214–0104.*

★**"Theories about the Roots of the Yugoslav Troubles": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** Talk by Norwegian University of Science and Technology political science professor Sabrina Ramet. *Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Be Good to Your Whole Body: Stress and Sleep": Whole Foods Market.** Talk by Whole Foods staff member Heather Brumwell. *12:30–1:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations requested. 975–4500.*

★**"Make MySpace Yours": Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL staff shows kids in grades 9–12 how to make cool backgrounds on their MySpace pages and upload their favorite pictures. *3:30–5:30 p.m., AADL computer lab, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Art & War: Preparation & Protest": U-M School of Music/Arts on Earth.** See 20 Tuesday. Today: jazz by U-M music professors Ed Sarath and Geri Allen, dance by U-M dance professor Amy Chavasse, a reading by U-M theater professor OyamO, and a multimedia performance by Thylias Moss that includes Schoenfield's riveting work *Sparks of Glory.* 5 p.m.

★**"Material Struggles and Democratic Rights in the New South Africa": U-M International Institute.** Talk by Sarah Lawrence College politics professor Elke Zuern. Part of the LS&A Citizenship Theme Year. *5:30–7:30 p.m., 4701 Haven Hall, 505 S. State. Free. 763–9200.*

★**"Fascinating Facts about the Great Lakes Coastal Plants": U-M School of Natural Resources and Environment.** Talk by Ellen Weatherbee, author of *The Guide to Great Lakes Coastal Plants. 5:30–7 p.m., 4315 & 4325 Dana, 440 Church St. Free. 647–7808*

★**"What's for Dinner after Global Warming?": U-M Exhibit Museum Science Cafe.** Talk by U-M ecology and evolutionary biology professor John Vandermeer. Followed by discussion. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by free hors d'oeuvres. In conjunction with the new Exhibit Museum exhibit *Climate Change: Local Impacts, Global Responsibility. 6–7:30 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Free. 764–0478.*

★**Reiki Introduction.** Local reiki master Suzy Wienckowski explains the Usui system of this gentle, hands-on technique for reducing stress, relieving pain, and facilitating healing and personal growth. Followed by free minitreatments. *7–9 p.m., location TBA. Free. Preregistration required. 665–8665.*

★**"Shiatsu: Balancing Your Energies, Healing Your Life": People's Food Co-op.** Lecture-demo by local shiatsu practitioner Craig Parian. Bring a blanket or mat and a pad and pen. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

★**"Harmonizing Hormones for Household Happiness": Wholistic Doctor.** Local chiropractor Darren Schmidt discusses ways to ease menopause and PMS with proper nutrition. *7–8 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975–4500.*

"Wines of Down Under: Australia, New Zealand, and the New Frontier": Vinology. Vinology owner Kristin Jonna and wine director Paul Hannah discuss

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21 WEDNESDAY *continued*

and offer taste samples of 6 Southern Hemisphere wines, paired with cheese and light hors d'oeuvres. Also, a talk on **"Winemaking 101."** *7–9 p.m., Vinology, 110 S. Main St. $55. Preregistration required. 222–9841.*

★**"Taking Charge of Your Health": Ann Arbor Community Center.** Talk by local physician Dorian Moore. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor Community Center, 625 N. Main St. Free. 662–1099.*

"Meet the Floofy Mohnstah: A British Cheese Tasting": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's staff discuss and offer taste samples of a variety of British cheeses they recently brought back from London. Also, Neal's Yard Dairy (Lancashire) cheesemakers **Graham Kirkham,** who makes Kirkham's Lancashire, and **Randolph Hodgson** are on hand to discuss their cheeses. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs kids room), 422 Detroit St. $20. Space limited; reservations required. 663–3354.*

★**"Globalization and the Latino Migration to the USA": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talks by U-M Residential College Spanish lecturers Cristhian Espinoza-Pino and Maria Isabel Rodriguez. In conjunction with 2007 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 26 Monday *Mountains Beyond Mountains* listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** See 7 Wednesday. Tonight: poetry readings by **Mary Jo Firth** and **Jack Ridl.** 7–9:30 p.m.

★**Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band: The Neutral Zone.** This nationally renowned Ypsilanti-based steel drum ensemble performs infectiously bright reggae and soca. *7 p.m., The Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214–9995.*

★**"Clean Water Action": Pittsfield Union Grange.** Talk by Clean Water Action community organizer Lynna Kaucheck. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck. *7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). Free. 769–1052.*

★**Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center.** All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky. Aaron offers a talk on the relationship to self—body, mind, sexuality, spirituality, and personality—and answers personal and universal questions. Also, socializing. *7:30 p.m., 3003 Washtenaw, suite 2 (entry on Glenwood, next to Arby's). Free, but donations are accepted. 477–5848.*

★**"Tales of a Diplomat": Gerald Ford Presidential Library.** Talk by **Henry Catto,** former State Department chief of protocol and ambassador to the UK. In conjunction with an exhibit on diplomacy (see Galleries). *7:30 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal Ave. Free. Reservations requested. 205–0555.*

★**"Using Types of Trident Maples as Bonsai": Ann Arbor Bonsai Society.** Club president Bill Heston discusses this popular bonsai tree prized for its big, lumpy, gnarly roots. *7:30 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 747–6493.*

★**"The Ivory-Billed Woodpecker: Back from Extinction?": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by Michigan Important Bird Areas program coordinator Caleb Putnam. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.*

★**Recital: U-M School of Music.** Two U-M music professors—pianist **Christopher Harding** and flutist **Amy Porter**—are joined by L.A. composer-guitarist **Christopher Caliendo** for a program TBA. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

Terry Meerkov: Kerrytown Concert House. This local mezzo-soprano performs works by Handel, Bach, Schubert, Dvorak, Osvaldo Golijov (see 29 Thursday listing), and Obradors. She is accompanied by pianist James Wilhelmsen, violinist Stephen Shipps, and clarinetist Deborah Chodacki. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10 (students, $5). Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival. See 20 Tuesday Events listing. **"Film Jam."** Screenings of films by local amateur filmmakers. Mich., 1 p.m. **"David Gatten."** Short films by this festival judge. Mich., 3 p.m. Mich., 1 & 3 p.m. **"Funeral Parade of Roses"** (Toshio Matsumoto, 1969). Gay adaptation of the Oedipus legend, followed by a Q&A with the director. Mich., 8 p.m. **"Matsumoto Shorts."** Short films by Toshio Matsumoto. Mich., 10 p.m. **"Competition Screenings."** Mich., 7 & 9:30 p.m. **"Helen Hill Tribute."** Screening of short films by this young New Orleans experimental filmmaker who was murdered in her home by an intruder in January. Firefly Club (207 S. Ashley), 5 p.m. **U-M Center for Russian & East European Studies. "Pretty Village, Pretty Flame"** (Srdan Dragojevic, 1996). Award-winning tale, set during the Bosnian War, about the relation between a Serb and a Muslim who find themselves on opposite sides despite having grown up together as best friends and owned a garage together. Serbian, subtitles. FREE. 764–0351. Angell Hall A, 7 p.m.

22 THURSDAY

"Roland the Minstrel Pig": Wild Swan Theater. *March 22–24.* This award-winning local children's theater company, in collaboration with the **Chelsea Chamber Players,** presents local playwright Jeff Duncan's charming tale, an adaptation of William Steig's delightful story, set in medieval times, about a lute-playing, sweet-singing pig who sets off to seek his fame and fortune when he runs into a wily fox. Cast: Michelle Lanzi, Sandy Ryder, Travis Pratt. Accompanied by live music by violinist Ian Cumming, flutist Cynthia Standefer, trumpeter Kiri Tollaksen, and cellist Sara Cumming. *10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris J. Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $10 (children, $8) in advance and at the door. 995–0530.*

★**"Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World": Jewish Community Center Civic Life and Community Engagement Series.** All invited to discuss Pulitzer Prize–winning writer Tracy Kidder's book (see 26 Monday). *1 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**"Living with Grief: Before and After Death": Ann Arbor District Library.** Live satellite downlink of this national conference. Followed by a Q&A with Arbor Hospice BraveHeart Grief Services staff. *1:30–5 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**"Models of Church-State Condominium: Poland, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia": U-M Center for European Studies "Conversations on Europe."** Talk by Norwegian University of Science and Technology political science professor Sabrina Ramet. *4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–2743.*

"Tea with the Fairies": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Crazy Wisdom staff dress up as magical fairies to sprinkle fairy dust and serve tea to kids and families. At 5 p.m., Crazy Wisdom fairy expert Nicole Beattie presents fairy stories and readings. Bring your own fairy wings and dolls. *4–6 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. $5. 665–2757.*

★**"Space/Time and Worries": U-M School of Art and Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series.** Lecture by **Ken Jacobs,** a New York filmmaker known for his pioneering avant-garde films in the 60s and 70s. His latest project, the experimental 2006 digital film *Two Wrenching Departures,* is a tender tribute to the passing of two fellow artists. *5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 936–2082.*

"Get Fit–Stay Fit": Busch's. A speaker TBA discusses smart food choices to maintain a healthy heart and body. Includes taste samples, raffle entry, and a $5 Busch's coupon. *6–7:30 p.m., Busch's, 2240 S. Main. $10. Preregistration requested. 998–2666.*

★**"The Ground Truth": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice/Zion Lutheran Church.** Screening of Patricia Foulkrod's documentary about 10 soldiers who meet recruiters, join the military, train, serve in Iraq, and return home. Preceded by a light dinner and followed by discussion. *6:30 p.m., Memorial Christian Church, 730 Tappan. Free. 663–1870.*

★**"Herbs and Remedies for First Aid": People's Food Co-op Herbal Wisdom Series.** Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Feldt. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.*

★**"Skin Health": Wholistic Doctor.** Talk by local naturopathic student Kimberly Didia. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975–4500.*

★**Paisley Rekdal: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This University of Utah English professor reads from ***The Invention of the Kaleidoscope,*** her collection of elegiac poems exploring the various ways failure and self-destruction can turn into self-preservation. "Paisley Rekdal's gaze never wavers," says fellow poet Barbara Hamby, "and in the kaleidoscope of her images she creates a new reality—fragmented, musical, and utterly true." Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Nathaniel Dett Chorale: U-M School of Music.** Performance by Canada's first professional choral group dedicated to Afrocentric music of all styles. Its repertoire includes spiritual, classical, gospel, jazz,

folk, and blues. *7:30 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Free. 764–0583.*

James Kibbie: Concordia University. This U-M organ professor, an authority on Bach's organ works, performs Bach works from various periods of his life. *7:30 p.m., Concordia Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Tickets $5–$10 in advance, $7–$12 at the door. 995–7537.*

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament": Improv Inferno. See 1 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

★**Trombone Ensemble: U-M School of Music.** David Jackson conducts this music-student ensemble in works by Bach, Holst, Shostakovich, and others. *8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

La Guitara: The Ark. A collaborative project, instigated by popular singer-songwriter and virtuoso guitarist **Patty Larkin,** that brings together women from different musical genres to explore the contribution of women to the evolution of modern guitar. Other performers are **Badi Assad,** a Brazilian guitarist and vocalist whose music is an inventive blend of traditional Brazilian and contemporary pop styles, and veteran blueswoman **Ellen McIlwaine,** a virtuoso slide guitarist and an acrobatic, emotionally compelling vocalist. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $25 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"2nd Annual Home Season": Peter Sparling Dance Company. *March 22–25.* U-M dance professor Peter Sparling leads his 7-member troupe in Dance Gallery alum Jeremy Steward's *Divine Secret.* Also on the program: Sparling and guest artist Janet Lilly perform *The System,* a duet they choreographed to a text by novelist (and former U-M professor) Charles Baxter, with music by Frank Pahl. Sparling also performs his new work *August,* set to the music of Satie, and Steward and Lilly perform solos TBA. *8–10 p.m., Dance Gallery Studio, 815 Wildt St. Tickets $15 (youth, $10 for March 25 family concert) at the door. 747–8885.*

★**"Unveiled: Stories from the Loves of Muslim Women": EMU Women's History Month.** A multiethnic cast of Muslim women perform a series of poems, narratives, and ensemble pieces unveiling the truth behind various common myths pertaining to Muslim women and their lives. *8–9:30 p.m., 350 Student Center auditorium, 900 Oakwood (between Washtenaw & N. Huron River Dr.), EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–1177.*

★**"The Crucible": U-M Basement Arts.** *March 22–24.* Emily Chaloner directs Arthur Miller's play, set during the Salem witch trials, about a community engulfed by paranoia and mutual recrimination. A minister's flirtatious daughter exacts a stinging revenge after a run-in with her employer's jealous wife. *Evening time TBA, Walgreen Drama Center Studio One, 1226 Murfin. North Campus. Free. 764–6800.*

"Hercules Leaves His Mark": Greenhills School. *March 22–25.* Jim Posante directs Greenhills students in Ben Cohen's musical comedy about a director and his team forced to mount a production of *Hercules* on the spot. When Hera, queen of the gods, notices the creation of a new story about the hero she detests, she sets out to destroy it. *8 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Tickets $12 (students, $10) in advance and at the door. 205–4057.*

"Hazing the Monkey": P.T.D. Productions. *March 22–25 & 29–31.* Rick Katon directs local actors in Marcus Hennessy's comedy about an ambitious factory worker who applies for a promotion and gets the interview of his life. Cast: Joe York, Amy Griffith, Katarina Lukaszewicz, Marvin McIntosh, Paul Bianchi, Jody Durkacs, Rich Heberlein, Alice Fell, Marlena Schuler, Marie Jones, and Janet Rich Platte. *8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets $15 (students & seniors, $10) in advance and at the door. 483–7345.*

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Tom Mabe: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *March 22–24.* This comic from Louisville, Kentucky, first gained attention through *Revenge on the Telemarketers,* a CD containing some of the elaborate stories he had fabricated as pranks to exasperate phone solicitors. His stand-up routines include some stories about these antics, but he's mainly an observational humorist who draws his material from the oddities of everyday life. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a nonsmoking show. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $8 (Thurs.) & $11 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $10 (Thurs.) & $13 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival. See 20 Tuesday Events listing. **"Debra Stratman."** Short films by festival judge. Mich., 3 p.m. **"Out Night."** Gay and lesbian

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films TBA. Mich., 10 p.m. **"Competition Screening."** Mich., 7, 8, & 9:30 p.m. **Projectorhead. "The Tango Lesson"** (Sally Potter, 1997). A middle-aged film director approaches a handsome young tango dancer and offers to put him in a film if he will teach her to dance. FREE. 615–0445. Modern Languages lecture room 2 (812 E. Washington). 7 p.m.

23 FRIDAY

"Roland the Minstrel Pig": Wild Swan Theater. 10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.

★**"Ann Arbor Film Festival Pioneers": Shaman Drum Bookshop.** Los Angeles artist and writer Gerry Fialka discusses the filmmakers and their works that have been featured in the Film Festival. *1 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

U-M Baseball vs. Oakland. *March 23 & 25 (single games) and 24 (doubleheader).* Home opener. U-M baseball is a very popular spectator sport: tickets are cheap and always available, the level of play is very high, and Ray Fisher Stadium—one of the few northern university parks with enclosed bleachers—is a great place to watch a game. The crowds number between 500 and 800 early in the season, growing to 2,000 to 3,000 as the weather and the competition heat up. *3 p.m. (Mar. 23) & 1 p.m. (Mar. 24 & 25), Ray Fisher Stadium. $5 (youths age 12 & under, $3; U-M students, free). 764–0247.*

★**"Democracy and Human Capacities": U-M Classical Studies Department Jerome Lecture Series.** Talk by Stanford University classics and political science professor Josiah Ober. In conjunction with the LS&A Citizenship Theme Year. *4 p.m., Michigan League Henderson Room. Free. 764–0360.*

★**"Real Basses, Real Men: Virtu and Virtuosity in the Construction of Noble Male Identity in Late Sixteenth-Century Italy": U-M School of Music.** Lecture-demonstration by University of Newcastle musicology professor Richard Wistreich. *5 p.m., Burton Memorial Tower 506, 881 North University. Free. 764–0594.*

Parents' Night Out: Ann Arbor YMCA. Kids ages 2–10 can enjoy dinner, a dip in the pool (age 5 & older only), and games and sports. *6:15–10 p.m., YMCA, 400 W. Washington. $15 (members) $20 (nonmembers). Preregistration required. 996–9622.*

U-M Men's Lacrosse vs. EMU. *7 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. $6 (students, $3). 764–0247.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 9 Friday. Today: **Team USA Under-17 vs. Springfield (Illinois) Jr. Blues** of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m.

★**"Evolution vs. Creation Debate": Summit International Assembly of God.** Talk by North Central University (Minneapolis) grad Michael Byrum. *7–8:30 p.m., Summit International Bldg., 2118 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 665–3899.*

★**Irene Butter: Ann Arbor District Library.** This Ann Arborite, a native of the Netherlands who knew Anne Frank and was sent as a child with her family to Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, discusses her life and experiences as a Holocaust survivor. In conjunction with 2007 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads (see 26 Monday *Mountains Beyond Mountains* listing). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Patrick Elkins: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This Ypsilanti writer, best known through his work as a puppeteer and pop-folk singer-songwriter, reads from ***Ink on Dreams of Transient Architecture,*** his new novel about an unnamed protagonist whose efforts to produce a meditation on the importance of minor details to consciousness are being thwarted by those very details—along with his absurd fascinations with ornithology, paranormal research, and the human circulatory system. Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

"Melody on Ice 2007: Cirque de la Glace": Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club. *March 23 & 24.* This annual show features more than 250 talented area skaters from tots to seniors. Also, hair-raising, daring acrobatics by the acclaimed female street acrobat troupe the Aerial Angels, voted "most daring act" at the London Fringe Festival. Also, ice dancers, synchro team the Hockettes, and national showcase medalists. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $8; patron, $25) available in advance and at the door. 213–1600.*

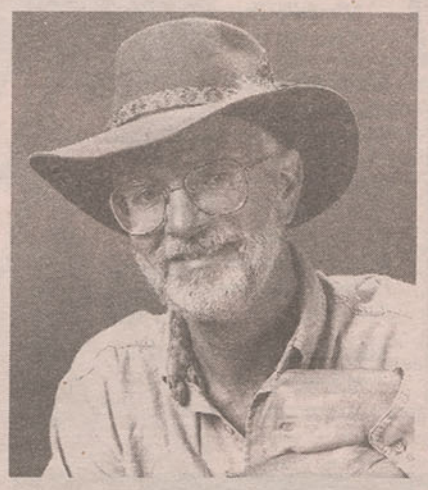
U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Maryland. *7:30 p.m., Crisler Arena, S. State at Hoover. $3 (youths age 12 & under, $1; U-M students, free). 763–2159.*

★**Organ and Harpsichord Recital: EMU Music Department.** EMU music students and alumni perform a varied program of organ and harpsichord mu-

singer-songwriters

Bill Staines

America's troubadour



The first time you hear Bill Staines sing in his down-to-earth, unpretentious voice, you might be surprised to learn that it's a voice agile and acrobatic enough to have earned him a National Yodeling Championship. That's just one of a number of surprises hidden in the man and his music. He takes the stage dressed aw-shucks casual, yet quotes Shakespeare and makes knowledgeable references to the gods of Greek mythology. He considers himself solidly in the tradition of American folk musicians, yet there is nothing of the "close enough for folk music" quality in either his songwriting or his performances.

His guitar playing is not flashy, but its elegant clarity commands your attention. Few guitarists get as pretty a sound from their instrument, and few songwriters craft such "just right" accompaniments to their songs. He sings with equal affection 150-year-old songs and ones he penned last month.

His traveling-troubadour lifestyle embodies wanderlust. You'd be hard pressed to find a folk venue or festival that he has not played. For much of the last four decades he has been everywhere but home. Yet he's also the epitome of stability and loyalty. He has played the same guitar for nearly forty years and has been married to the same woman for more than thirty. He returns to the clubs and coffeehouses he's played over the years as regularly as the seasons. He meets more people in a year than most of us do in a lifetime, yet he seems able to maintain friendships with many of them.

What shines through most clearly in all of Staines's varied facets, though, is his deep faith in the power of the music he plays to connect and uplift people. That is what his peripatetic life seems to be about. He loves constantly exploring and learning about our country, the land, the rivers, the mountains, the small towns and big cities, and, above all, the people. His gifts, in both senses of the word, are the performances and lovingly crafted songs that reflect who he's met and what he's seen and experienced. His recently published memoir *The Tour* is filled with stories of those friendships and experiences. It is in equal parts a fascinating personal story and a vivid record of the folk music scene in this country from the 1960s to today.

Bill Staines returns to the Ark on Friday, March 23.

—Sandor Slomovits

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sic, including a tribute to the German Baroque composer Dietrich Buxtehude. *7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Bldg. Organ Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

"The Oblivion Project": Phoenix Ensemble (Kerrytown Concert House). *March 23 & 24.* Violinist Gabe Bolkosky leads this innovative local chamber orchestra in its annual tribute to Astor Piazzolla's influential and increasingly popular "nuevos tangos," which assimilate folk idioms to a modern sensibility. Other performers are cellist Derek Snyder, *bandoneon* player Julien Labro, percussionist Alex Trajano, pianist Tad Weed, and bassist John Holkeboer. *7:30 & 9:30 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15, $20, & $30. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

Bill Staines: The Ark. *See review, above.* Veteran singer-songwriter whose restless, brooding songs have been recorded by everyone from Nanci Griffith to Tommy Makem to the late Grandpa Jones. A past winner of the National Yodeling Championship, Staines also performs lots of yodeling tunes and singalongs. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Rahim AlHaj & Souhail Kaspar: University Musical Society. UMS debut of the duo of Iraq-born, Albuquerque-based oud player AlHaj and Lebanese percussionist Kaspar. Their performance showcases cuts from their Smithsonian Folkways CD, *When the Soul Is Settled: Music of Iraq*, a collection of 9 improvisations that range in mood from passionate joy to profound sorrow. Veteran music critic Robert Christgau notes that this recording demonstrates "how modest virtuosity can be in a classical tradition that honors simplicity." *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $16–$32 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

"Assassins": U-M MUSKET. *March 23–25.* Stephen Sposito directs U-M students in Stephen Sondheim's musical about several presidential assassins, from John Wilkes Booth to Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, who meet and inspire each other to harrowing acts in the name of the American dream. *8 p.m., Power Center. $13 (students, $7) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"The Good Person of Setzuan": EMU Theater Department. *March 23–25 & 29–31.* EMU theater professor Wallace Bridges directs EMU drama students in Tony Kushner's adaptation of Bertolt Brecht's 1940 dramatic parable (usually mistranslated as *The Good Woman of Szechuan*), a blend of theatricality, poetry, humor, and song exploring the dilemma faced by an ethical person in an unethical world. When the gods reward a generous and compassionate young prostitute by giving her a tobacco shop, she is forced to invent a coldhearted alter ego to protect herself from her greedy friends and neighbors. This production features stylized costumes and set design by the award-winning designer N. Scott Hofmann, currently an EMU Thelma McAndless scholar. *8 p.m., Quirk Theater, Ford St., EMU campus, Ypsilanti. (Take Huron River Dr. east to Lowell St. Take Lowell to Ford St. and turn right onto Ford. The theater is on the left, with parking on the right.) Tickets $15 (students, $12; kids age 12 & under, $6) in advance and at the door. All tickets are $6 on Thurs., and student tickets are $9 for the Mar. 24 eve. show. Group discounts available. 487–1221.*

"2nd Annual Home Season": Peter Sparling Dance Company. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Crucible": U-M Basement Arts. See 22 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

"Hercules Leaves His Mark": Greenhills School. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Hazing the Monkey": P.T.D. Productions. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament & The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Tom Mabe: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 22 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Tierney Sutton: The Firefly Club. *Tentative.* This L.A.-based jazz singer is known for her refined elegance and taut lyricism. Her repertoire ranges from standards to show tunes and even country songs. *9 & 11 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets $25 at the door only. 665–9090.*

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival. See 20 Tuesday Events listing. **"Brooke Keesling."** Short films by this festi-

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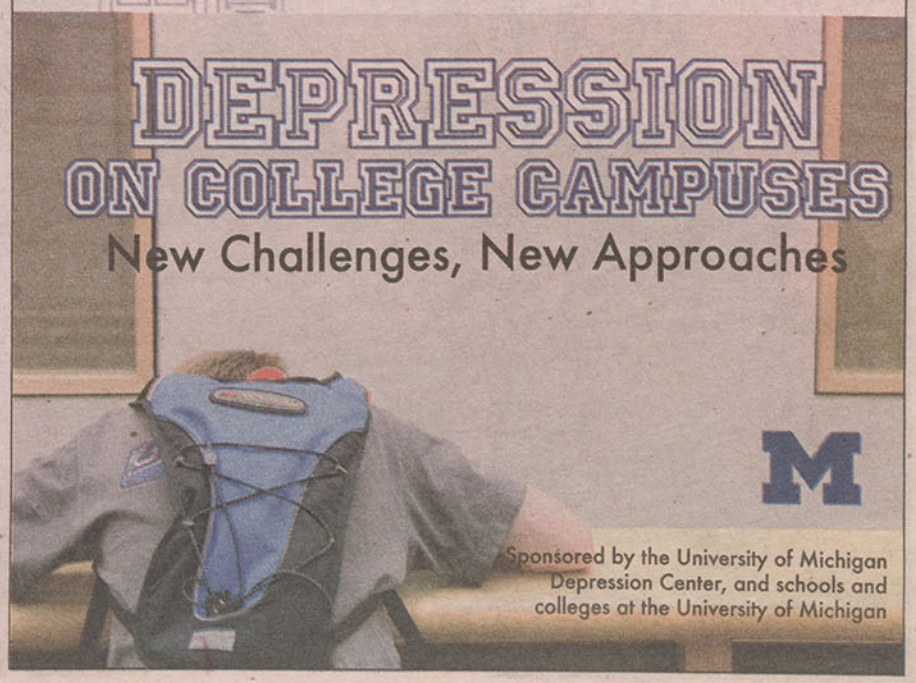
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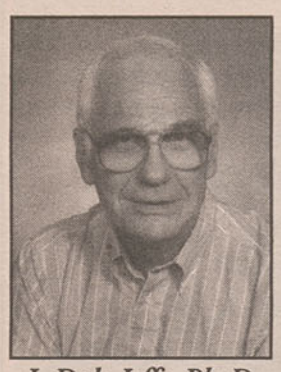

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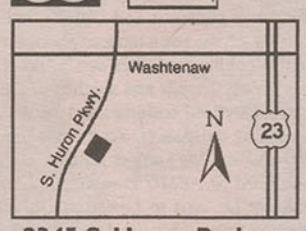

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23 FRIDAY *continued*

val judge. Mich., 3 p.m. **"Film Jam."** Screenings of films by local amateur filmmakers. Mich., 5 p.m. **"Competition Screening."** Mich., 7 & 9:30 p.m. **"Robert Todd Retrospective."** Screening of films by this Emerson University film professor. Mich., 8 p.m. **"Bruce McClure Projector Performance."** This performance artist manipulates multiple projectors to create superimposed images. Mich., 10 p.m. **"El Topo"** (Alexandro Jodorowsky, 1970). Surreal cult Western-fantasy about a gunslinger who avenges a massacre. Mich., 12 a.m. **M-Flicks. "The Warriors"** (Walter Hill, 1979). When a gang rally turns ugly, members of the Warriors must fight for their lives across the seamy underbelly of New York. FREE. 763–1107. Natural Sciences auditorium (830 North University), 8 p.m.

24 SATURDAY

★**Ecosystem Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens.** All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants and prepare new planting sites. Dress for outdoor work. Tools provided, or bring your own. *9 a.m.–noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 998–9540.*

52nd Annual Flea Market: Ann Arbor Women's City Club. *March 24 & 25.* A giant sale of art, books, artificial flowers, jewelry, linens, toys, games, kitchenware, collectibles, and pink and white elephant items. Arrive early: every year, several hundred power shoppers gather outside before the doors open. No strollers. *9 a.m.–4 p.m. (Mar. 24) & Noon–4 p.m. (Mar. 25), Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free admission. 662–3279.*

★**"Wild Weather, Changing Climate Discovery Day": U-M Exhibit Museum.** A variety of family-oriented activities and experiments exploring weather and climate topics, including outdoor telescope viewing, a multimedia presentation on tornado chasing, videos of extreme weather, information about energy saving measures, and more. Craft activities range from making take-home barometers, anemometers, and drain gauges to coloring a take-home "weather and climate activity book." In conjunction with the new Exhibit Museum exhibit *Climate Change: Local Impacts, Global Responsibility. 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes. Free. 764–0478.*

★**"Michigan Harpsichord Saturday": U-M School of Music.** An opportunity to play and listen to harpsichords. Continuous student recitals, informal free walk-in lessons, and harpsichords to play on. *10 a.m.–1 p.m., U-M Music School Moore Hall, 1100 Baits (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 665–2217.*

★**"3rd Annual Brick Bash!": Bricks for Brains.** This public Lego building party for all ages includes several tables stocked with Lego sets and Bionicles. Also, Lego hobbyists from throughout the region display their creations, including everything from robotics and other mechanized creations to models of cars and trucks. Lego door prizes. *11 a.m.–6 p.m., Ann Arbor Academy, 111 E. Mosley. Free. 637–9249.*

★**Qigong Introduction: Peaceful Dragon School.** A t'ai chi instructor demonstrates this easy, meditative exercise. Followed by Q&A. *11 a.m.–noon, 1945 Pauline Blvd. suite B. Free. 741–0695.*

"Circus Beyond Words": Performance Network Children's Theater Network. Local mime **Michael Lee** leads his troupe **OPUS Mime** in an exploration how to communicate nonverbally with physical gestures, using excerpts from its new work *Circus Opus,* a fantasy about what would happen if the performance art troupes Cirque de Soleil, Stomp, and Blue Man Group got together for a party. *11 a.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets $10 (youth 16 & under, $7) in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663–0681.*

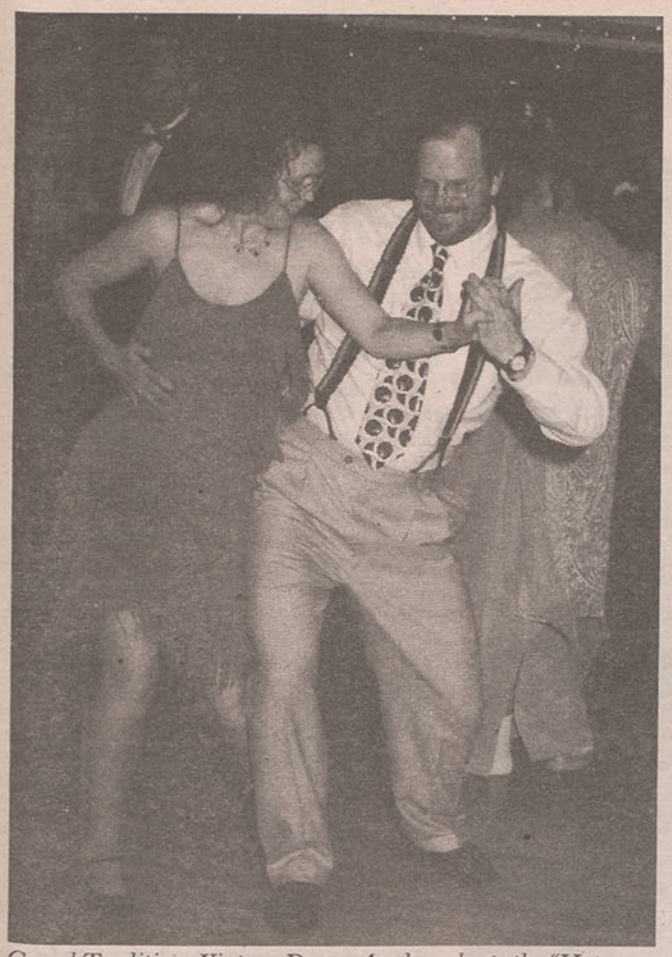
"Roland the Minstrel Pig": Wild Swan Theater. 11 a.m.

★**Swordplay: Ring of Steel.** Michigan Opera Theater fight director **Chris Barbeau** leads an hour of duel demonstrations followed by an hour of stunt demonstrations. *11:30 a.m., U-M Student Theater Arts Complex, 1201 Kipke Dr. (behind Crisler Arena). Free. 320–1147.*

U-M Men's Lacrosse vs. Wooster. *1 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. $6 (students, $3). 764–0247.*

Japan Cultural Festival: U-M Japan Student Association. Includes recorded J-pop, a traditional tea ceremony, traditional dance, and demos of calligraphy and karate. Japanese food. *2–5 p.m., East Hall Atrium, 525 East University. Admission $1. 764–6307.*

"Bluebirds in Your Boxes": Waterloo Natural History Association. Naturalist Terry Green discusses



Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy hosts the "Hot Jazz Ball" at First Unitarian Mar. 31.

bluebirds and their habitat and shows how to make, install, and care for a box to attract nesting bluebirds. Limited supply of precut nest box kits available for purchase. *2–3 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (family, $5; WNHA members, free). Preregistration required. Vehicle entrance fees: $6/day, $24/year ($6/year for seniors age 65 & over). 475–3170.*

★**"Paesano's Executive Chef Isabella Cooks!": Whole Foods Market.** Paesano's chef Isabella Nicoletti prepares some recipes from her new cookbook, *perbaccoisabella! 2–4 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking and Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975–4500.*

★**U-M Women's Lacrosse vs. MSU.** *4 p.m., Pioneer High School, 601 W. Stadium at Main. Free. 764–0247.*

"Sacred Drum Circle": Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers. All invited for a freeform drum circle. No experience necessary. Bring a drum if you have one. *5 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers, 2007 S. State. $5. Preregistration requested. 945–8602.*

"Mantra, Japa, and the Yoga of Sound": Sun Moon Yoga Studio. Lecture-demo by self-styled "mantra man" Pritam Hari (Trevor Eller) on the physical and psychological effects of sound frequencies and chant repetition. *6–8 p.m., Sun Moon Studio, 404 W. Huron. $25 in advance, $30 at the door. 929–0274.*

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 9 Friday. Today: **Team USA Under-17 vs. Springfield (Illinois) Jr. Blues** of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m.

"57th Annual Bands in Review": Ann Arbor Public Schools. *March 24 & 25.* More than 800 public school students perform in these lively concerts. Tonight: the Pioneer Symphony Band, and the Huron Varsity, Symphony, and Concert bands, along with Tappan, Scarlett, and Clague middle school bands. *7 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at S. Main. Tickets $3 in advance from band members and at the door. 996–3210.*

"Melody on Ice 2007: Cirque de la Glace": Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club. See 23 Friday. 2 & 7 p.m.

★**Chopin Piano Series: U-M School of Music.** See 6 Tuesday. Today: Greene performs a nocturne and 4 mazurkas. Also, Angela Wu performs the Introduction and Bolero and a polonaise, Christina Thayer performs a nocturne, and Amie Chen performs 4 mazurkas, Olga Cleianchina performs a prelude and *Fantaisie-Impromptu*, Brian Sander performs a polonaise, Svetlana Smolina performs a scherzo, Jei-Yern Ryu performs a waltz, Polina Khatsko performs a nocturne and a waltz, Noel McRobbie performs 3 mazurkas, a cantabile, and a mazurka. The program begins with a talk by the young Connecticut composer David Heetderks. 7:30 p.m., Recital Hall.

"The Oblivion Project": Phoenix Ensemble (Kerrytown Concert House). See 23 Friday. 7:30 & 9:30 p.m.

★**"Special Species and Communities Resulting from Restoration Efforts at Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum": Michigan Botanical Club.** Talks by local prairie enthusiast Aunita Erskine, local greenbelt advisory commissioner Sylvia Taylor, and U-M horticulturalist Connie Crancer. *7:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663–5667.*

"4th Saturday Contra Dance": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. Danika Murray calls to music by the Stout Hearted String Band. No partner needed. All dances taught. Beginner's workshop at 7:40 p.m. Wear cool, casual clothes and bring flat, smooth-soled shoes for dancing. *8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). $9. 730–6919.*

International Folk Dancing. *March 24 & 31.* Dancing to music by the **Ethnic Connection** (March 24) and **Veselba** (March 31). No partner needed. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a dance lesson. *8–11 p.m., Gretchen's House, 2625 Traver. $5–$10 (students, $3–$5) donation. 995–0011.*

Scandinavian Couples Dance Party: Multicultural Folk Arts Center. Traditional turning couples dances, mainly from Sweden and Norway, including hambo, schottis, Boda polska, and Telespringar. With live music by fiddler Bruce Sagan & others TBA. No partner necessary. Hard-soled shoes strongly recommended. Snacks. Preceded at 7 p.m. by dance lessons. *8:30–11 p.m., Gretchen's House Dhu Varren, 1580 Dhu Varren. $8 (students, $5). 769–7642.*

Mountain Heart: The Ark. Winner of the 1999 International Bluegrass Association Emerging Artist of the Year Award, this bluegrass ensemble blends traditional and progressive styles. Its 2005 CD *The Journey* is a collection of traditional southern gospel tunes, and the band's 2006 CD *Wide Open* blends originals with songs by well-known country and bluegrass songwriters. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $20 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Canadian Brass: University Musical Society. This world-famous brass quintet charms audiences of all ages with its blend of classical and popular music and witty commentary. The players are top-notch musicians and entertainers whose attitude is summed up in tubaist Charles Daellenbach's comment that "a good performance isn't enough—people have to go out feeling happy." The group's repertoire spans everything from Bach to Dixieland to original pieces like *A Tribute to the Ballet*, a parody that purports to present highlights of the world's greatest ballets, all from the viewpoint of orchestra pit players who never see the dancers. Tonight's program showcases material from its newest CD, *High Society: Jazz Masterworks of Luther Henderson. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $10–$48 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

"Radio Stories and Other Stories": Ypsilanti District Library. Award-winning NPR reporter **Ira Glass** from Chicago discusses and answers questions about *This American Life*, the offbeat syndicated weekly program he has hosted since 1996. Each week, the show takes a theme—immigrant parents, people who lead double lives, "fiascoes"—as the basis for an hour of stories, monologues, minidocumentaries, and other sometimes indescribable pieces for radio. The result is always intriguing, usually funny, and sometimes poignant or appalling. *8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Tickets $10 in advance at the EMU Convocation Center and at the door. 487–2282.*

"2nd Annual Home Season": Peter Sparling Dance Company. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Crucible": U-M Basement Arts. See 22 Thursday. Evening time TBA.

"Hercules Leaves His Mark": Greenhills School. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Assassins": U-M MUSKET. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Hazing the Monkey": P.T.D. Productions. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Tom Mabe: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 22 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Kirtan": Sun Moon Yoga Studio. All invited to join self-styled "mantra man" Pritam Hari (Trevor Eller) to perform this traditional Sikh liturgical music, based on classical Indian ragas, that combines drumming, guitar playing, and call-and-response lyrics based on verses of the *Sri Guru Granth Sahib*, the main Sikh spiritual text. *8:30 p.m., Sun Moon Studio, 404 W. Huron. $10 in advance, $15 at the door. 929–0274.*

"The Good Person of Setzuan": EMU Theater Department. See 23 Friday. 5 & 9 p.m.

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival. See 20 Tuesday Events listing. **"Afternoon Competition Shows."** Two matinees of films drawn from competition screenings earlier in the week. Mich., 1 & 3 p.m. **"Competition Screenings".** Mich., 7 & 9:30 p.m. **"Ken Jacobs Screening."** Screening of films by this New York City filmmaker. Mich., 3:30 p.m. **"San Francisco Cinematheque."** Screening of films from this experimental film promoter. Mich., 7:30 p.m. **"Banned in Michigan."** Screening of the films that resulted in the festival's loss of state funding. Mich., 10 p.m. **"El Topo"** (Alexandro Jodorowsky, 1970). Surrealistic cult fantasy western about a gunslinger bent on avenging a massacre. Mich., Midnight.

25 SUNDAY

★**"Annual Waterfowl Watch and an Early Birds Hike": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** All invited to join WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner to hike the lakeshore and check out the loons, grebes, ducks, and other waterfowl at this migration rest stop. Bring binoculars if you have some. Followed by hot drinks at the Beach Center. Dress warmly. *9–11:30 a.m., Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings (2½ miles north off E. North Territorial), Webster Twp. Free. Vehicle entrance fees: $4/day ($2 for seniors age 62 & over), $20/year. 971–6337.*

"17th Annual Spring to Life": U-M Cancer Center. An elegant flower show and brunch, with foods from Food for All Seasons, Loving Spoonful, The Common Grill, and the Moveable Feast, as well as Zingerman's pastries and Kilwin's chocolates. Proceeds benefit the Cancer Center. *Noon–3 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris J. Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $125–$275. 998–6895.*

★**"Waterloo Recreation Area 'Secret' Hike": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** All invited to join club members for a hike, 3–4 miles, at an undisclosed location. *1 p.m., meet at City Hall to carpool. Free. 477–5715.*

Gemini: The Ark. Family concert by this popular acoustic duo that has built a strong following among kids and adults throughout the Great Lakes area. Twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits offer sing-alongs, folk songs from around the world, and upbeat originals about life's simple pleasures, all performed with a boisterous sense of fun on more than a dozen instruments. The duo's latest release is the *Parents Choice* award-winning CD *The Orchestra Is Here to Play*, a live recording with the local Phoenix Ensemble that offers young listeners an accessible way to venture into the world of classical music while enjoying folk songs written just for kids. *1 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $10 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**"One Story at a Time": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County.** Time Pieces Personal Biographies owner **Stephanie Kadel-Taras** offers tips on writing stories from your life. Audience members get a chance to do some practice writing. Followed by a talk by a club member on **"Certification: Measuring Yourself Against Standards."** *1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr. at Clark Rd.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.*

★**"Arthur Miller's Global Theater": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M English professor **Enoch**

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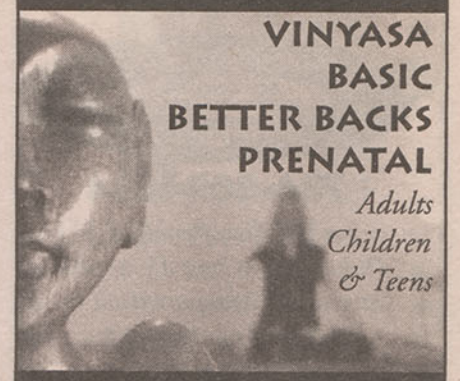

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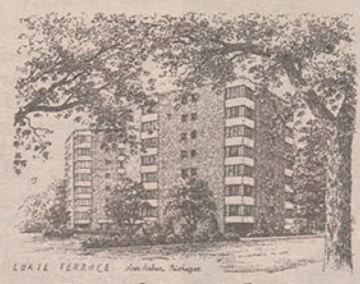

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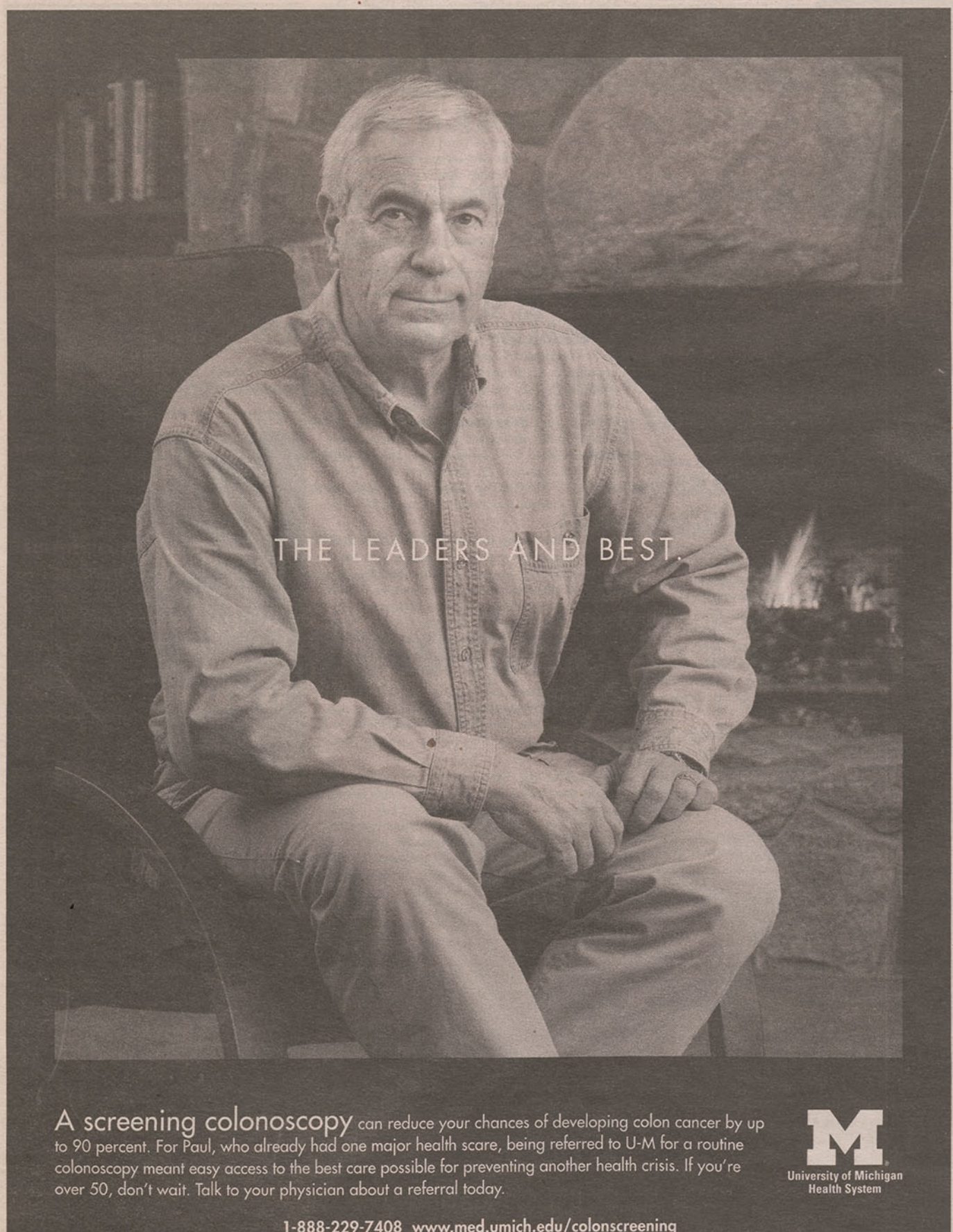

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25 SUNDAY *continued*

Brater discusses his new book about the response to Miller's plays around the world. In conjunction with the opening of the new U-M Arthur Miller Theater (see 30 Friday *Playing for Time* listing). Brater also signs copies of his book at Shaman Drum Bookshop on March 20, 4–6 p.m. *2–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

Spring Sunday Sampler: Southeast Michigan Astrologers' Round Table. Genial local astrologer Bon Rose Fine hosts this minifestival that features talks by Michigan astrologers on **"When Astrology Was a Science," "Relationship Charts," "Astrologers and the Ship of State,"** and **"The Gods of Evolution and Change."** Door prize drawing. *2–5 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tearoom. 114 S. Main St. $5. Preregistration recommended. 434–4555.*

★**Ann Arbor Middle East Film Society.** Screening of 2 documentaries. ***Jerusalem 1948*** is Leon Willems and Tinus Kramer's 1998 film about events in Jerusalem and the major villages south and west of it from the 1947 UN Partition Resolution to the first truce between the Arab and Israeli armed forces in June 1948. ***My Land*** is Tone Anderson's 2005 film about discrimination against Arabs in Israel. *2 p.m., Michigan Union Anderson Room D. Free; donations appreciated. 668–1358.*

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. *2–4 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 971–5763.*

★**"Spring Swing Contra Fling."** Don Theyken and Ed Vincent call contras to swing music by the Treetown Swingtette. *2 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (½ mile south of I-94). Free. 769–1052.*

"2nd Annual Home Season": Peter Sparling Dance Company. See 22 Thursday. Today's **family concert** features an abridged program with Steward's *Divine Secret,* solos by Steward and Lilly, and Sparling's *August*. 2 p.m.

"Hercules Leaves His Mark": Greenhills School. See 22 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Assassins": U-M MUSKET. See 23 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Hazing the Monkey": P.T.D. Productions. See 22 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"The Good Person of Setzuan": EMU Theater Department. See 23 Friday. 2 p.m.

★**"The Power of Good": Hillel.** Screening of Matej Minac's 2002 documentary about Nicholas Winton, who rescued 669 Czech children in 1939. Light lunch provided. *2:30–5 p.m., Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Free. 769–0500.*

★**"Hacking Democracy": Washtenaw County Democracy for America.** A screening of this film about security defects in America's electronic voting system is preceded by Michigan Election Reform Alliance representative Paul Lehto on investigations and prosecutions in Ohio and Michigan related to election fraud. Followed by discussion. *3 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Hall, 6201 W. Michigan Ave. Free. 996–3963.*

"57th Annual Bands in Review": Ann Arbor Public Schools. See 24 Saturday. Today: The Forsythe and Slauson bands, Huron Symphony Band, and Pioneer Varsity, Concert, and Symphony bands. 3 p.m.

★**"The Parables of Jesus": First Presbyterian Church.** Susan Boggs directs the church's chancel choir and soloists and the Michigan Sinfonietta in a program of choral settings of the gospel parables, including Marc-Antoine Charpentier's *The Prodigal Son* and Britten's *Cantata Misericordium,* a setting of the parable of the Good Samaritan. Also, music by Vaughan Williams and local composers Jon Ophoff and Janet Leckrone. The music is interwoven with commentary by church members Thomas Trevethan and Lawrence Lohr. *4 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466.*

Benefit Show: Ann Arbor Dance Classics. Performances by the school's youth dancers. Proceeds benefit research on Lou Gehrig's disease. *4 p.m., Saline High School, 1300 Campus Pkwy. (off Industrial, north from E. Michigan), Saline. $10. 302–4248.*

★**Society for Women Engineers Book Club: Liberty Borders.** All invited to join a discussion of ***The Beekeeper's Apprentice,*** Laurie King's novel in which Sherlock Holmes takes on a female apprentice. *6–8 p.m., Borders cafe, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.*

"Best of the Banff Mountain Film Festival": U-M Recreational Sports Outdoor Adventures. *March 25 & 26 (different programs).* This "Best of the Festival" tour features the best mountain and outdoor adventure films from the 2007 edition of the famous 3-day festival held every November in Banff, Alberta, a town in the Canadian Rockies. Also, informational displays by local outdoor groups. Door prizes. *6–9 p.m. (doors open at 5:15 p.m.), Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $10 in advance at Bivouac, $15 at the door. 764–3967.*

Roland Vazquez

Master of the Spanish tinge

The drum holds a privileged place in the jazz tradition and in many ways best symbolizes the African roots of the music. There have been some extraordinary jazz percussionist composers—just think of Denzil Best, Max Roach, Susie Ibarra, or Chano Pozo—and one of the premier ones of our time is Roland Vazquez.

Vazquez grew up in Los Angeles, where he played in rock bands but eventually broadened his perspectives to include funk, Latin music, and jazz. He moved to New York, where he led various larger ensembles, including a big band, and studied at the Manhattan School of Music. After graduation he returned to the institution as an instructor, but this did not curtail his performing and recording career. Not content with exploring jazz and Latin traditions, he began to make a name for himself as a classical composer, writing music for chamber groups as well as orchestras. During the last decade he taught at the U-M, but he has now returned to touring with his own band.

The drummer/composer is in love with the broad variety of Afro-Latin rhythms. While many successful Latin or jazz percussionists work within a narrow stylistic range and identify with a specific tradition, Vazquez has spent many years studying the complexities of "the Spanish tinge," in the famous words that the New Orleans pioneer Jelly Roll Morton used to describe the Afro-Caribbean elements in early jazz. One of the courses Vazquez taught at the U-M was a survey described as "a historical perspective of the evolution of the music evolving out of the Afro Latin diaspora: from West Africa to Cuba to Afro Latin Jazz." His own music making reflects the lessons he absorbed from his studies.

Vazquez is now working with a quartet that consists of two longtime friends and collaborators, saxophonist Joel Frahm and electric bassist Anthony Jackson, as well as relative newcomer Manuel Valera. Frahm is one of the finest younger tenor saxophonists in the country, able to fit into a wide variety of contexts without losing his musical identity. Jackson plays a six-string electric bass that he calls a "contrabass guitar," and his distinctive sound and phrasing can be heard on many recordings by musicians as varied as Buddy Rich, Paul Simon, Michel Petrucciani, and Chaka Khan. The Cuban-born Valera is, like Vasquez, interested in the intersection of jazz and Latin music, and in composition as well as improvisation. His two previous Ann Arbor performances were simply magnificent, and his return, this time as a sideman, is much anticipated.

The Roland Vazquez Quartet plays at Kerrytown Concert House on Sunday, March 25.

—Piotr Michalowski

★**"Safe Schools Antibullying Law": Washtenaw Faith Action Network.** State senator Glenn S. Anderson, a Westland Democrat, leads a discussion on proposed legislation that directs public schools to adopt a policy prohibiting harassment or bullying at school. *6:30–8:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church Wesley Foundation Lounge, 120 S. State at Huron. Sunday. Free. 665–5524.*

★**"Cellopalooza": EMU Music Department.** EMU cello professors Diane Winder and Peter Opie are joined by EMU music students and alumni and area cello students and teachers to perform works for cello ensemble and cello orchestra. The program includes the premiere of a work by EMU music grad Laurie Jarski, along with works by Morton Gould, Julius Klengel, and Jean Francaix. *7 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

John Jorgenson Quintet: The Ark. Gypsy jazz standards and originals by this ensemble led by singer-guitarist Jorgenson, a founding member of the Desert Rose Band and the Hellecasters who's a recognized pioneer in the revival of the music of Django Reinhardt—Jorgenson even portrayed Reinhardt in the 2004 film *Head in the Clouds*. *7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $20 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**Bread and Puppet Theater: U-M Residential College Drama Concentration.** This veteran Vermont-based political theater troupe, founded and directed by Peter Schumann, uses giant papier-mache puppets to present provocatively humorous original issue-oriented plays, parades, and other performances. "The Bread & Puppet Theater has been so long a part of America's conscious struggle for our better selves, that it has become, paradoxically, a fixture of our subconscious," says NPR commentator Andrei Codrescu. *7:30 p.m., U-M Residential College Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647–4354.*

"Songs from the Haggadah: New Music for Pesach": Beth Israel Congregation. Twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits of the popular local folk duo Gemini perform Sandor's songs based on excerpts from the Haggadah text, some of it 2,000 years old, that is used at the Seder meal. Also, comments by Beth Israel rabbi Robert Dobrusin. Followed by a wine and cheese reception. *7:45 p.m., Beth Israel, 2000 Washtenaw. $10 donation, (students & seniors, $5). 663–5543.*

Roland Vazquez Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. *See review, above.* Composer-drummer Vazquez, a former U-M jazz composition lecturer, leads his all-star quartet in American premieres of new Vazquez compositions, along with material from his recent releases *Quintet Live* and *Further Dance*. A *JazzTimes* critic dubs Vazquez's music "Latin Rhythmic Chamber Jazz" and the European press calls it "Funky Salsa Bebop." With veteran contrabass guitarist **Anthony Jackson** and 2 rising stars of the New York City jazz scene, saxophonist **Joel Frahm** and the Cuban-born pianist **Manuel Valera.** *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10, $15, & $25 (students, $5). Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

"Get Up Stand Up": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 8 p.m.

"The Production Line": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 9 p.m.

The Long Winters: The Blind Pig. Energetic, quirkily melodic R.E.M.-influenced indie rock by this Seattle band led by singer-songwriter John Roderick. *Pitchfork* reviewer Rachel Khong call the band's new CD, *Putting the Days to Bed*, a collection of songs about "the letdowns and hard truths concerned with what suckers humans really are [in which] the Long Winters are closer than they've ever been to perfectly executing the huge sounding sad song." Opening acts are **Bound Stems,** an acclaimed Chicago indie guitar-based rock band fronted by singer-songwriter Bobby Gallivan, and **Stars of Track and Field,** an indie rock trio from Portland, Oregon. *10 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets $12 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

"The Sweet Spot with Eye Candy": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 10 p.m.

"Rap it Up": Improv Inferno. See 4 Sunday. 11 p.m.

FILMS

Ann Arbor Film Festival. See 20 Tuesday Events listing. **"Afternoon Shows."** Two matinees of films drawn from the competition screenings. Mich., 1 & 3 p.m. **"Pine Flat"** (Sharon Lockhart, 2006). Languorous montage of a dozen quiet meditative scenes of children in nature. Mich., noon. **"Curated Programming."** Screening of films TBA. Mich., 3:30 p.m. **"Awards Screening."** Mich., 5:30, 7, & 9 p.m.

26 MONDAY

★**"U.S. Intervention in Venezuela": U-M Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.** Talk by New York-based immigration lawyer Eva Golinger, the author of *The Chavez Code* and *Bush vs. Chavez: Washington's War on Venezuela*. Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647–0844.

★**"Images and Translations: Greek, Etruscan, and Beyond": U-M Classical Studies Department Jerome Lecture Series.** March 26, 27, 29, & 31 and April 4. A series of lectures by NYU classics professor Larissa Bonfante, cofounder of the U.S. Section of the Institute of Etruscan Studies. Today's topic: **"Early Encounters."** Also in the series: **"Images of Gender"** (March 27), **"What Happened to the Kouros?"** (March 28), **"Runes and Amber"** (March 31), and **"Final Journey"** (April 4). *4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater (Mar. 26) & Kelsey Museum Classroom (Mar. 27 & 29 and Apr. 4), and 10 a.m., 2175 Angell Hall (Mar. 31). Free. 764–0362.*

★**Dan Solomon: U-M College of Architecture & Urban Planning Raoul Wallenberg Lecture.** Talk on a topic TBA by this award-winning architect, a principal of San Francisco–based Solomon E.T.C. *6 p.m., Art & Architecture Auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764–1300.*

"Best of the Banff Mountain Film Festival": U-M Recreational Sports Outdoor Adventures. See 25 Sunday. 6–9 p.m.

★**"Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to discuss Pulitzer Prize–winning writer Tracy Kidder's book about the renowned infectious-disease specialist. The book has been chosen for the annual Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads communitywide reading program. Other Ann Arbor Reads programs this month include talks by novelists Jenny White on March 7 and Dinaw Mengetsu on March 11, a panel discussion with past and present Ann Arbor Citizens of the Year on March 13, a talk on Carnegie Libraries on March 18, a talk on Latino immigration on March 21, and a talk by Holocaust survivor Irene Butter on March 23, along with a discussion of the book at the Jewish Community Center on March 22 (see listings). 7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.

★**Michigan Youth Ensembles: U-M School of Music.** Performances by high school ensembles directed by U-M music faculty. Julie Skadsem conducts the Michigan Youth Women's Chorale in Chas Bryan's arrangement of "Charlottetown," Ruth Henderson's "Come, ye makers of song," and other works. Paul Rardin conducts the Michigan Youth Chamber Singers in Vaughan Williams's "Serenade to Music," Louis Lewandowski's "Hallelujah," David Maddux's "O Sifuni Mungu," and other works. Rodney Dorsey conducts the Michigan Youth Band in Vaughan Williams's *Folk Song Suite*, Ronald Lo Presti's *Elegy for a Young American*, Gordon Jacob's *Music for a Festival*, Scriabin's Nocturne, and Armand Russell's Theme and Fantasia. Anthony Elliott conducts the Michigan Youth Symphony Orchestra in Dvorak's Symphony no. 8 and U-M music professor Michael Daugherty's *Red Cape Tango*. *7 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 763–0583.*

★**Michael Gould: U-M School of Music.** U-M percussion professor Michael Gould performs new works by U-M faculty composers, including Virgil Moorefield's "Siamese Kits," "Joined at the Kick," Andy Kirshner's "Video Jockey," and others TBA. Gould also performs with his jazz trio, E3Q, which includes cellist Katri Ervamaa and trumpeter Mark Kirschenmann. *8 p.m., U-M Duderstadt Media Center video studio, 2281 Bonisteel, North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

★**"Mad About Chamber Music": Kerrytown Concert House.** See 12 Monday. Today: students of U-M piano professor Christopher Harding perform piano music by a variety of composers. 8 p.m.

Antje Duvekot: The Ark. Fast-rising young Boston-area singer-songwriter known for her darkly resonant, introspectively personal ballads and her hushed,

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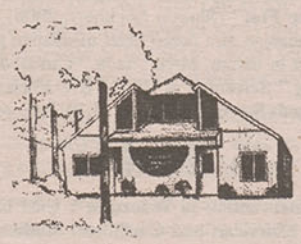

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conversational singing. "I think she's going to be the next great American folk singer-songwriter," says Ellis Paul. "She's writing songs we need to hear right now. We need a fresh voice to shake things up for all of us." A big hit in her local debut opening for Paul last fall. Opening act is Jen Sygit, a young Lansing singer-songwriter known for her poignant lyrics and bluesy, breathtaking vocals. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 (students with ID, $10) in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

FILMS

U-M Max Kade Film Screenings. "What to Do in Case of Fire?" (Gregor Schnitzler, 2001). Touching comedy about the reunion of a group of 6 former creative anarchists who lived as house squatters in West Berlin in the 80s. German, subtitles. Free. 764–5018. Max Kade house (Baits II, 1440 Hubbard, North Campus), 7–10 p.m. **Michigan Theater Foundation. "Flannel Pajamas"** (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). March 26–29. An idyllic romance leads to a marriage that over time begins to crumble from the cumulative effect of small daily quibbles. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA. **"The Bridge"** (Eric Steel, 2006). March 26–29. Unblinking documentary about people who commit suicide by jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge. $8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

27 TUESDAY

★**"Quick Fix Meals: 200 Simple, Delicious Recipes to Make Mealtime Easy": Arborland Borders.** Food Network TV host Robin Miller discusses her guide to fixing healthful and satisfying meals in a short time. *Noon, Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 449–9394.*

U-M Baseball vs. Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne. 3 p.m., Ray Fisher Stadium. $5 (youths age 12 & under, $3; U-M students, free). 764–0247.

★**"Millers Creek Film Festival": Huron River Watershed Council.** Screenings of short films made by local residents that detail the connection between people and Millers Creek, which runs to the Huron River south from Thurston Pond and is called "the smallest and most dramatic creek in the Huron River system." Prizes. *4 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 769–5123.*

★**"The Adolescent Brain": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M child and adolescent psychiatry fellow Richard Dopp. In conjunction with the centennial of the U-M psychiatry department. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.*

★**Tom Bissell: Liberty Borders.** This journalist and fiction writer, a contributing editor for Harper's Magazine and the *Virginia Quarterly Review*, reads from ***The Father of All Things: A Marine, His Son, and the Legacy of the Vietnam War,*** his moving, poignant account of a trip he and his Vietnam vet father took to Vietnam. Also, signing. *7 p.m., Borders, 612 Liberty. Free. 677–6948.*

★**"Fibromyalgia and Other Chronic Pain": Whole Foods Market.** Talk by local nutritionist Judy Stone. *7–8:30 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Lifestyle Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations recommended. 975–4500.*

★**Laurie Halse Anderson: Nicola's Books.** This young adult novelist reads from ***Twisted,*** her story about a nerd whose graffiti lead to trouble. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Chopin Piano Series: U-M School of Music.** See 6 Tuesday. Today: Greene performs 3 etudes. Also, Olga Cleianchina performs Impromptu no. 1, Cathal Breslin performs a scherzo, and Angela Wu performs 2 nocturnes. Wu, Jei-Yern Ryu, Dmitri Vorobiev, and Svetlana Smolina each perform 3 etudes, and Chih-long Hu performs a ballade, 2 nocturnes, 2 mazurkas, and 2 waltzes. The program begins with a talk by U-M music theory professor Alan Gosman. 7:30 p.m., Recital Hall.

★**"Songs Without Words": EMU Music Department.** EMU piano professor **Kathryn Goodson** and U-M saxophone professor **Donald Sinta** present a lecture-recital on lyrical music, featuring music by Lu Pei, Puccini, Mahler, Debussy, Bernstein, Paul Ben-Haim, and Ned Rorem. *7:30 p.m., EMU Alexander Bldg. Organ Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

Dinner Dance: Tuesday Night Dancers. Ballroom dancing to live music by the Mike Wolverton Band. Includes fox-trots, waltzes, Latin and swing dancing, and more. Singles and couples welcome. Preceded at 7 p.m. by dinner. No jeans. *8–10:45 p.m., Grotto Club of Ann Arbor, 2070 W. Stadium. $17 (includes dinner) in advance only. (517) 787–6367, (517) 592–5771.*

★**Amy Speace & the Tearjerks: The Ark "Take a Chance Tuesdays."** Alt-country band led by Speace, a fast-rising singer-songwriter from Hoboken, New Jersey, whose music ranges from contemplative to rocking. "Speace is a sweet, spunky, highly literate twangirl tomboy. She writes and sings with spirit and a sense of fun," says Indie-Music.com writer Jennifer Layton in her review of Speace's new CD, *Songs for Bright Street*. "She can croon desert moon lovelorn ballads until your heart breaks. She can be uplifting and joyously optimistic. She can smolder and purr and fog up your contact lenses." Part of a monthly series of free concerts showcasing lesser-known artists on the roster of the prestigious local management agency Fleming Artists. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free. 761–1451.*

"The Subject Was Roses": Purple Rose Theater Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "Flannel Pajamas" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 26 Monday. Mich., times TBA. **"The Bridge"** (Eric Steel, 2006). See 26 Monday. Mich., times TBA.

28 WEDNESDAY

★**"Reporting on Culture and Politics from Russia, Georgia, and the Caucasus": U-M Center for Russian & East European Studies.** Talk by NPR staff reporter Lawrence Sheets, a former Moscow bureau chief. *Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0351.*

★**"The Ramayana Across Asia": U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies.** Talks by Leiden (Netherlands) University Southeast Asian languages and cultures professor Bernard Arps and Chulalongkorn University (Bangkok, Thailand) theater professor Pornrat Dhamrung. *3–5 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0352.*

★**"Latinos, Immigration Policy, and the National Interest": National Poverty Center/U-M School of Public Policy.** Talk by Cecilia Munoz, research, advocacy, and legislation vice-president of the National Council of La Raza, the largest constituency-based Hispanic civil rights and advocacy group in the U.S. *4–5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 615–5312, 764–3490.*

★**"Backyard Meteorology": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library.** See 11 Sunday. *4–5 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. Preregistration required 2 weeks in advance. 764–0478.*

★**Ypsilanti-Ann Arbor Area Robotics Club.** All invited to meet robotics hobbyists and check out and informally discuss their current gadgets and toys. Legos Mindstorms robots and radio-controlled cars available for kids to use. *7 p.m., Corsa Instruments, 2370 Abbott (off Stadium just south of Jackson). Free. 332–1000.*

★**"Climate Change: Insights from Science, Imperatives for Policy": U-M Exhibit Museum William R. Farrand Public Lecture.** Talk by U-M School of Natural Resources dean Rosina Bierbaum. In conjunction with the new Exhibit Museum exhibit *Climate Change: Local Impacts, Global Responsibility.* Reception follows. *7 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 764–0478.*

★**Maggie Nelson: Shaman Drum Bookshop.** This award-winning L.A. poet reads from ***The Red Parts: A Memoir,*** her new memoir about her experience with other members of her family witnessing the recent trial and conviction of the man identified by DNA evidence as the murderer of her aunt, a U-M law student who was killed in 1969. *"The Red Parts* is a riveting read—Didion-esque in its tough clarity, its understatement, and its sheen," says poet and cultural critic Wayne Koestenbaum. "Like any great memoirist, Maggie Nelson is a born trespasser, with an exquisitely calibrated moral conscience." Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★**Works-in-Progress Series: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** See 7 Wednesday. Tonight: poetry readings by T. Hetzel and Katie Hartsock. 7–9:30 p.m.

"From Shtetl to Swing": Jewish Community Center. Screening of Fabienne Rousso-Lenoir's 2005 PBS documentary about the cross-pollination of Jewish and African American musical influences. Narrated by actor-playwright Harvey Fierstein. Followed by ***Matisyahu,*** David Baugnon's 2004 documentary about Matthew Miller, a New York City rapper whose music blends Hasidic, reggae, and beatbox influences. The West Lounge Klezmer Fusion performs before each film. A preview of the 2007 Jewish Film Festival, which comes to town in May. *7 p.m., U-M Hillel, 1429 Hill St. $10. 971–0990.*

★**"Books Not Bars: Hope for California's Youth": Prison Creative Arts Project.** Talk by Books Not Bars field director Zachary Norris. In conjunction

with a prisoner art exhibit at the Duderstadt Center (see Galleries). *7:30 p.m., Michigan League room TBA. Free. 647–7673.*

★Jazz Lab Ensemble: U-M School of Music. Dennis Wilson directs this music-student ensemble in a program TBA. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764–0983.*

Riggs/Sternhagen/McCormack Trio: Kerrytown Concert House. This trio of Oberlin Conservatory students—bassist Nicholas Sternhagen, guitarist Christopher Riggs, and bassoonist Timothy McCormack—performs improvised jazz that combines rapid formal shifts with wide-ranging sonic textures. It is joined for some pieces by local multi-instrumentalist Piotr Michalowski. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10 (students, $5). Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

Richard Shindell: The Ark. A former bandmate of John Gorka in the Razzy Dazzy Spasm Band, Shindell burst onto the national scene in 1992 with *Sparrow's Point*, a widely acclaimed LP that included "Kenworth of My Dreams," a song Ramblin' Jack Elliott has called one of the best truck songs he's ever heard. "Like Bruce Springsteen and Lucinda Williams, he dwells on big, often difficult moments in the lives of ordinary people. By staying with them even as he flies into metaphor, he maintains equanimity," says *New York Times* music critic Ann Powers. His latest CD, *Vuelta*, reflects the influence of the music of Argentina, where he currently lives. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $20 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Keb' Mo': The Ark. This veteran L.A. singer-guitarist plays original contemporary blues with a strong traditional feel, along with covers of Robert Johnson and other country blues classics. Most widely known from his performance of "America the Beautiful" in the final episode of *The West Wing*, Keb' Mo' also played Robert Johnson in *Can't You Hear the Wind Howl*, a 1996 docudrama about Johnson's life. He recently released *Suitcase*, a CD that All Music Guide reviewer (and local singer-songwriter) Steve Leggett calls a "suite of songs dedicated to the emotional baggage everyone carries with them as they plow through increasingly complicated lives in search of peace, love, and some measure of personal redemption." *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $35 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "The Bridge" (Eric Steel, 2006). See 26 Monday. Mich., times TBA. **"Flannel Pajamas"** (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 26 Monday. Mich., times TBA. **U-M Center for Russian & East European Studies. "Before the Rain"** (Milcho Manchevski, 1994). Award-winning tale, set against the backdrop of the political turbulence in Macedonia during the Bosnian War, interweaving 3 very different kinds of love stories. Serbian, subtitles. FREE. 764–0351. Angell Hall A, 7 p.m.

29 THURSDAY

"Building a Better Food System for Southeast Michigan": Food System Economic Partnership. A series of concurrent sessions on the local food system and opportunities to strengthen it. Topics range from farmers' markets and local foods in restaurants to the slow food movement and going organic. Also, a keynote speech by Eden Foods CEO Michael Potter. *8:15 a.m.–3:15 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $20 in advance by March 19, $30 after March 19 and at the door. 240–3180.*

★Book Lovers' Club: Washtenaw County Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled. All invited to discuss ***River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey,*** Andie Millard's book about Roosevelt's 1914 Amazonian rain forest expedition, and Nabokov's classic novel ***Lolita.*** Refreshments. *Noon–4 p.m., Washtenaw County Library conference room B, County Service Center, 4135 Washtenaw at Hogback. Free. 971–6059.*

★"Drama Matters: Suitcases, Sands, and Dry Goods": U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts. Lecture by U-M English professor Enoch Brater. Reception follows. *3:10 p.m., Alumni Association Founders Room, 200 Fletcher. Free. 615–6449.*

★"From Me to We: The Emerging Civic Life Movement: John Dewey and the Making of Democratic Cultures": U-M Ginsberg Center for Community Service and Learning. Talk by University of Minnesota Center for Democracy and Citizenship codirector Harry Boyte. *4 p.m.–5:30 p.m., Palmer Commons Great Lakes Room, 100 Washtenaw. Free. 647–7402.*

★"Water, Climate, and Health: The Need for a Global Sustainable Supply of Safe Drinking Water": U-M Natural Resources and Environment. Talk by University of Maryland microbiology professor Rita Colwell. *5:30–7 p.m., 1040 Dana, 440 Church St. Free. 647–7808.*

★Laura Kasischke and Michael Byers: U-M English Department. Poetry reading by Kasischke and fiction reading by Byers. Kasischke, a U-M Residential College creative writing instructor, writes fast-moving poems that take unexpected turns into the flip side of consciousness, making visionary leaps from the familiar world to brilliant, surprising epiphanies. Byers is a PEN/Hemingway– and O. Henry–winning short story writer and novelist whose most recent novel, *Long for This World*, portrays a geneticist who makes a startling discovery that leads him to devise a risky experimental treatment for a dying child. *Publishers Weekly* says its "characterizations are so vivid and convincing that they are nearly hyper-real, as if Byers had set his protagonists under a microscope." *5 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 615–3710.*

★"Kunstkompatible Projekte": U-M School of Art and Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series. Franz John discusses his installation art project about earthquakes, *Turing Tables: an Untitled Composition for Tectonic Spaces*. The work combines video projections of green computer text collected from seismological institutes with the disquieting sound of earthquakes worldwide, a low, feathery rumble. *5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 936–2082.*

★Contemporary Directions Ensemble: U-M School of Music. Andrew George leads this adventurous music-student ensemble in klezmer- and tango-inspired works by Holy Cross College music professor **Osvaldo Golijov,** a renowned klezmer- and tango-inspired Argentine composer who introduces each work. Golijov also discusses his music tomorrow at 4 p.m. in Modern Languages auditorium 3. *6 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

"How to Make Fresh Mozzarella": Morgan and York. Local *maitre de fromage* Simone Jenkins demonstrates how to make this tender round cheese. Participants can taste still-warm samples and try making a pound of their own to take home. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Morgan & York, 1928 Packard. $35. Preregistration required. 662–0798.*

★"Trekking in the Himalayas: A Virtual Tour": Of Global Interest. Local adventure tour owner Heather O'Neal, who regularly travels to the Himalayas for her adventure tour business Of Global Interest, screens a travel video about the Everest base camp. *7–8:30 p.m., 120 Eighth St. (at Washington). Free. 369–3107.*

★Ander Monson: Shaman Drum Bookshop. This Grand Valley State creative writing professor reads from *Neck Deep and Other Predicaments*, his essay collection that employs various nonliterary forms—the index, the Harvard Outline, the mathematical proof—to take on an equally surprising mix of obsessions, including disc golf, the history of mining in northern Michigan, topology, and more. In one essay, Monson reflects on his outsider experience at an exclusive Detroit-area boarding school in the form of a criminal history. "For Monson the essay is something like a schematics for our fiercest longings and most ecstatic inventions," says critic and poet Robert Polito. "Every time I turn to it I'm astonished all over again by the majesty of this book." Signing. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.*

★"Art about Art": Concordia University. Talk by EMU art history professor Richard Rubenfeld. *7:30 p.m., Concordia Riverside Conference Room, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Free. 995–7537.*

★"Hijacking History: Culture, Politics, and Exhibition at the Smithsonian": U-M Museum Studies Exhibiting Controversy Colloquium. Talk by U-M American studies professor Kristin Hass. *7:30 p.m., 2022 Thayer, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 936–6678.*

★"Voices on the Wall": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice/Zion Lutheran Church. Speakers TBA discuss their perspectives on the West Bank concrete wall. *7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 663–1870.*

"The Wiz": Tappan Players. *March 29–31.* Alan Dengiz directs over 160 Tappan students in a rousing production of William Brown's 1975 musical based on the *Wizard of Oz*. *7:30 p.m., Tappan Middle School, 2251 E. Stadium Blvd. at Packard. Tickets $7 in advance March 23–25 only at Stadium Market and at the door. 945–6393.*

"Champions of the West": Thurston Community Players. *March 29–31.* Phil Zaret directs Thurston Elementary School parents and friends in the school's 33rd annual original play. In the late-19th-century prairie town of Bestwesternville, when the children demand a school so they can learn more

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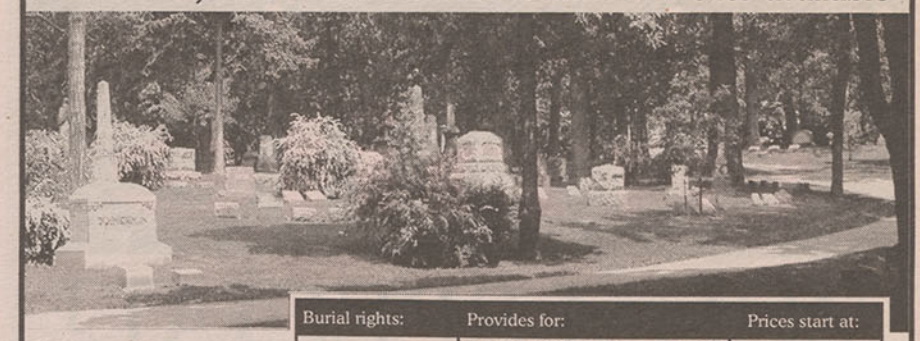

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29 THURSDAY *continued*

than their parents' trades, the richest man in town enlists the help of 2 bumbling train robbers to help him thwart the school as it shuttles from a wetland to a saloon to a cornfield portable. The cast includes Steve Geiringer, Twylla Tassava, Amy Bunker, Tom Kent, and Mike Leininger. *7:30 p.m., Clague Middle School auditorium, 2616 Nixon. Tickets $8 (students, $5) at the door. 913–0657.*

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament": Improv Inferno. See 1 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

★**Campus Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Mark Latham, Oriol Sans, and Sameer Patel conduct this ensemble of nonmusic majors in Mozart's Symphony no. 34, the Overture to Rossini's *The Italian in Algiers,* Sibelius's *Finlandia,* and Tchaikovsky's *Fatum. 8 p.m., U-M Music School McIntosh Theater, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.*

The Roches: The Ark. Sort of a modern version of the Andrews Sisters (whose music they have often adapted), the three Roches have been singing close harmony in styles ranging from barbershop to doo-wop since the late 60s. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of folk and classical material with pop covers from different eras and lots of pop-folk originals. They're live wires in concert, too, full of wisecracks, jokes, and word play. This is their first local appearance since 1990, and their first album of new material since 1995, *Moonswept,* is due out this month. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $25 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"A Wider Lens": U-M Dance Department M.F.A. Thesis Concert. *March 29–31.* A concert of solo and group works choreographed by U-M M.F.A. dance candidates **Alison Woerner, Matthew Farmer, Rodney Brown,** and **Carolina Pahde M.** Woerner's solo *I Love You, I Can't Hear You, Stop Talking* is set to an interview of a hearing-impaired person, and her untitled group work explores the mix of disorder, tension, and aggressive spontaneity in the work of Jackson Pollock. Farmer's *human•kind•ness* is an abstract solo exploring elemental interconnections, and his untitled group work is inspired by the plight of child soldiers in war-torn northern Uganda. Brown's *I Am I* is built on Paul Laurence Dunbar's poem "When Dey Listed Colored Soldiers," and his *To: Our Tomorrow* is a group work exploring what it means to be HIV-positive, black, and female. It is set to compositions by U-M composer Christian Matjias, drum 'n' bass composer Friedel Lelonek, and New Orleans poet Sunni Patterson. Pahde M.'s solo is an homage to the great Catalonian architect Antoni Gaudi, and her *Translating Macondo* is a work for 17 dancers exploring the influence of Colombian culture on her search for an authentic language of movement. *8 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), U-M Dance Bldg. Betty Pease Studio Theater, 1310 North University Ct. Tickets $5 at the door only. 763–5461.*

"The Grand Duke": U-M Gilbert and Sullivan Society. *March 29–April 1.* David Zinn directs this accomplished local town-and-gown company in this satire about a penny-pinching grand duke who is reluctant to marry his betrothed, a wealthy but intimidating baroness, because he thinks she's only after his money. Ludwig, the local theater troupe leader, persuades the grand duke to wriggle out of the marriage by giving up his throne for a day, but he then seizes power for himself. The coup backfires when the troupe's prima donna invokes a clause in her contract guaranteeing her a perpetual role as leading lady—meaning that Ludwig must take her as his grand duchess instead of the woman he loves. It's a lively show, very tuneful and full of witty banter. The cast includes Thomas Wolfson, Erica Ruff, David Beaulier, Margot Rood, Don Devine, Carrie Reid-Knox, Lawrence Bryk, and Kevin Casey. This production marks UMGASS's 60-year anniversary, and special anniversary events include a banquet ($35) at 4 p.m. on March 31. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan League. Tickets $16 & $22 (seniors, $10 & $15; students, $13 & $18) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Hazing the Monkey": P.T.D. Productions. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Good Person of Setzuan": EMU Theater Department. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Jackie Kashian: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *March 29–31.* Ann Arbor debut of this veteran standup comic, a frequent performer on cable TV who has also had her own Comedy Central special. Her act blends storytelling with sharp commentary on a mix of momentous and trivial topics. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served; the Friday early show is a non-smoking show. *8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. $8 (Thurs.) & $11 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $10 (Thurs.) & $13 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

VAST: The Blind Pig. This ensemble led by California singer-songwriter Jon Crosby plays an original brand of postgrunge rock that blends elements industrial, ambient, and electronica. Its shows also feature performance art, video monitors, and other visual elements. Opening acts TBA. *8:30 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors open at 8 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. Ashley. Tickets $15 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.*

FILMS

MTF. "The Bridge" (Eric Steel, 2006). See 26 Monday. Mich., times TBA. **"Flannel Pajamas"** (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 26 Monday. Mich., times TBA. **Projectorhead. "The Day I Became a Woman"** (Marzieh Meshkini, 2000). Three Iranian women—a bicycle racer, an elderly woman with an outrageous shopping splurge in mind, and a 9-year-old told she has just become a woman—struggle to find a sense of identity. Persian, subtitles. FREE. 615–0445. Modern Languages lecture room 2 (812 E. Washington). 7 p.m.

30 FRIDAY

★**"Lessons from Cambodia for Iraq: The Flawed Peace Agreements on Cambodia": U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies.** Talk by Benny Widyono, former UN secretary-general's representative to Cambodia. *Noon–1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0352.*

★**"History and Politics of Recognition": U-M Institute for the Humanities Marc & Constance Jacobson Lecture.** Lecture by University of Chicago history professor Dipesh Chakrabarty, a historian of Bengal known for his contributions to postcolonial theory. Also, at 10 a.m. tomorrow Chakrabarty participates in a panel discussion on issues raised by his talk with U-M architecture professor Will Glover, U-M history and German professor Geoff Eley, and U-M history professor Martha Jones. *4–5:30 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Nanking! Nanking!": U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** Panel discussion on U-M music professor Bright Sheng's threnody for *pipa* and orchestra, written in memory of the Chinese victims of the 1937 massacre during the Sino-Japanese War. Panelists are Sheng, conductor Cai Jindong, writer Sheila Melvin, and historian Mark Selden. Followed by a video of a U-M Symphony Orchestra performance of the work and a showing of the documentary *Rape of Nanking. 4 p.m., School of Education Schorling Auditorium, 610 East University. Free. 764–6308.*

"The Farm: Life Inside Angola Prison": U-M Prison Creative Arts Project. Liz Garbus's powerful, award-winning 1998 documentary about six prisoners at the maximum-security Louisiana State Prison. In conjunction with an exhibit (see Galleries). *5 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $8. 647–7673.*

★**"Social Inclusion: Stopping the Pattern of Bullying and Teasing": Rudolf Steiner School.** Talk by Harlemville, New York, educator and counselor Kim John Payne, author of *The Games Children Play. 6–9 p.m., Rudolf Steiner School, 2775 Newport. Free. 995–4141.*

Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. See 16 Friday. Readings by U-M creative writing instructors and grad students. Today: prose by **Danielle Lazarin** and poetry by **KC Trommer.** *7 p.m., Michigan League Hussey Room. Cost TBA. 615–3710.*

"Floreciendo de Nuestras Raices": 7th Annual U-M Latino Culture Show. U-M students present variety show of Latino music, dance, skits, spoken word, and other performing arts. *7 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $7 Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★**"Line of Return: Cultivating the 'Borderland' in Dialogue with Czeslaw Milosz": U-M Annual Copernicus Lecture.** Talk by the Polish poet, essayist, publisher and social activist Krzysztof Czyzewski, founder of the Borderlands Foundation of Arts, Cultures, and Nations in Sejny, a small town near the Polish border with Lithuania. Working to memorialize, rebuild, and sustain the rich multicultural heritage that was nearly destroyed by 2 world wars, the Borderlands Foundation is most widely known through its publication of *Neighbors,* Jan Gross's controversial book about Polish-Jewish relations during the Holocaust. *7:30 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 764–0351, 764–0397.*

"The Trial of Tom Sawyer": Young Actors Guild. *March 30–April 1.* Bayyinah Muhammad directs young actors in former EMU Theater of the Young director Virginia Koste's entertaining dramatization of Twain's classic book *The Adventures of Tom*

tango jazz

Pablo Ziegler Quintet

Piazzolla, and beyond

For many, the word *tango* conjures full-contact dance and music on the accordion—actually a *bandoneón*, or German concertina—that's equal parts sultriness and late-night despair. Then, a bit more than twenty years ago, something new was added to the picture when Ástor Piazzolla's music began to spread around the world from Argentina. Piazzolla was a bandoneón player who wanted to become a classical composer and went to study in France. His music, instrumental and vocal, mixed tango rhythms with harmonies that could have come out of Stravinsky or Poulenc, full of devices like tango fugues.

Piazzolla's mixture didn't go over so well in Argentina initially—he was beaten up on the street by traditionalists on one occasion—but it turned out that his Quinteto Tango Nuevo gave new life to a dance music genre from an era whose other styles are frozen in time. Not a week goes by now without the release of a new tango album, played by ensembles ranging from severe German wind quintets to Argentine rockers.

Until recently, however, this new diversity of tango fusions did not involve jazz; the sinuous, melancholy lines of Piazzolla's tangos sounded as if they were improvised but in fact were almost entirely written out. The situation has changed with Pablo Ziegler and his Quintet for New Tango.

In Piazzolla's later years, Ziegler—himself Argentine and classically trained—was the pianist in Quinteto Tango Nuevo. But though his group's name justifiably claims direct descent from Piazzolla, Ziegler does not approach Piazzolla as a slavish revivalist. Instead, he applies the resources of jazz, specifically bebop, to Piazzolla's New Tango music. He plays a few of Piazzolla's compositions, opening them up in various ways, but most of his pieces are originals.

Ziegler's imagination in working jazz into the tango framework is impressive in scope. He builds on the harmonic complexity of Piazzolla's lines, adding the extended harmonies of bebop. He carves out space within the structure of the classic tango, adding long piano excursions at the ends of musical phrases, or free introductions or interludes. And Ziegler reverses the roles of piano and bandoneón: in Piazzolla's quintet the bandoneón was the lead and the piano the rhythmic supporter, while with Ziegler it is the bandoneón that maintains the link with tango's classic rhythms and moods while Ziegler's piano pushes at the boundaries of form.

Ziegler's marriage of jazz and tango may be as royal as the classical-tango one at which Piazzolla officiated. And there's going to be one more musical marriage to celebrate when Ziegler comes to Rackham Auditorium on Friday, March 30. The flexibility of his style makes it ideally suited to collaboration, and he has worked with musicians ranging from Argentine jazz guitarist Quique Sinesi to classical pianist Emanuel Ax. The Rackham show will feature Claudia Acuña, the charismatic young Chilean jazz singer whose repertoire ranges from Latin jazz to boppish interpretations of American standards. The potential meeting of the minds is exciting indeed, as is the way the pulsing heart of the tango continues to push out its rich liquid into the world's musical arteries.

—James M. Manheim

Sawyer. Twain appears as one of the characters in this play, reminiscing about his boyhood on the Mississippi as his fictional creation comes to life in a series of adventures and misadventures that see him grow from an irreverent boy into a courageous young man. *7:30 p.m., Greenhills Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. $7 (kids under 12, $5) at the door only. 913–9800.*

"The Wiz": Tappan Players. See 29 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"Champions of the West": Thurston Community Players. See 29 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

Judy Piazza: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Detroit-area multi-instrumentalist who composes rhythmsongs and soundscapes, influenced by a variety of musical traditions, that blend voice, various drums from around the world, and occasional flute, guitar, or other instrumentation. She has a new CD, *Crescent Moon. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

★Symphony Band: U-M School of Music. Michael Haithcock conducts this music-student ensemble in Takemitsu's *Day Signal and Night Signal*, U-M music professor Michael Daugherty's *To Raise the Roof*, Gubaidulina's *Hour of the Soul*, Schmitt's *Dionysiaques*, and Milhaud's *La Creation du Monde. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0583.*

Groove: U-M University Activities Center. This U-M student percussion and dance ensemble performs high-energy percussion using traditional and nontraditional instruments (brooms, garbage cans, newspapers, and basketballs). *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $6 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. 763–TKTS.*

Terri Hendrix: The Ark. Acclaimed young Texas singer-songwriter whose rootsy country-folk songs are known for their winning blend of soul-searching lucidity, plucky high spirits, and intimate warmth. She is accompanied by Texas steel guitar legend Lloyd Maines, the father of Dixie Chick Natalie Maines. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

Pablo Ziegler Quintet: University Musical Society. *See review, above.* A former member of Astor Piazzolla's New Tango Quintet, Ziegler formed his own ensemble in 1990 to play original music that blends soulful tango rhythms with agile, angular jazz improvisations. His dynamic and eclectic quintet often creates musical tension by balancing a slow, languid rhythm against a rapid one, before culminating in sharp final notes that, one critic notes, "leave the audience breathless and wanting more." Guest vocalist is **Claudia Acuna**, a Chilean singer who's noted for blending Latin rhythms with jazz sensibilities. Followed by a tango dance party (location and cost TBA). *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $20–$40 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

"Symphonic Sextets": CutTime Players (Kerrytown Concert House). Detroit Symphony Orchestra

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bassist Rick Robinson leads an ensemble of DSO colleagues in the premiere of his Sextet for Strings. *Detroit Free Press* music critic Mark Stryker calls Robinson "a promising composer with a taste for fleshy Romantic textures." The program also includes Robinson's transcriptions of Chabrier's sunny *Espana Rhapsody*, Enesco's dazzling *Romanian Rhapsody no. 1*, Satie's glistening *Gymnopedie no. 1*, a Joplin rag, and a Claude Bolling tango. With DSO violinists Hai-Xin Wu and Adam Stepniewski, violists John Madison and Eva Stern, and cellist Sarah Cleveland. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $15, $20, & $30 (students, $5). Reservations suggested. 769–2999.*

"Playing for Time": U-M Theater Department. *March 30–April 1 & April 5–8.* The U-M celebrates the grand opening of its new Arthur Miller Theater with a production of Miller's drama, based on the autobiography of the half-Jewish Parisian singer Fania Fenelon, about the harrowing experience of the legendary women's orchestra in Auschwitz. Robert Chapel directs a cast of U-M drama students. *8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sun.), & 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theater, 1226 Murfin. All performances sold out. 764–2538.*

"A Wider Lens": U-M Dance Department M.F.A. Thesis Concert. See 29 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Hazing the Monkey": P.T.D. Productions. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Grand Duke": U-M Gilbert and Sullivan Society. See 29 Thursday. Today's performance is preceded at 6 p.m. by panel discussion with speakers TBA and followed by an afterglow ($6). 8 p.m.

"The Good Person of Setzuan": EMU Theater Department. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"March Improv Madness Invitational Tournament & The X Show": Improv Inferno. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Jackie Kashian: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 29 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

The Sheryl Bailey Three: Firefly Club. Bailey is an acclaimed young postbop composer-guitarist from New York. "Bailey's playing, which is always lyrical and lush, with just the right amount of harmonic angularity and tangy dissonance, is bolstered by her beautifully burnished tone," says *Guitar Player* critic Darrin Fox. With Hammond B-3 organist Gary Versace and drummer Ian Froman. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. Tickets $15 at the door only. 665–9090.*

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "The Namesake" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). March 26–29. The son of Indian immigrants upsets his parents when he falls in love with an American blond. Based on the Jhumpa Lahiri novel. *$8.50 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, $6.75; MTF members, $6). 668–TIME. Michigan Theater, times TBA.*

31 SATURDAY

Handcraft Sale: Sales Exchange Refugee Rehabilitation Volunteers. *March 31 & April 1.* A wide variety of handcrafted items by Third World artisans. SERRV is an ecumenical nonprofit marketing organization designed to provide a major alternative sales outlet for artisans in economically developing areas of the world. *9 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church (back entrance), 1501 W. Liberty. Free admission. Wheelchair-accessible. 663–0362.*

★**Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Preservation Division.** All invited to help city parks natural area preservation staff maintain the natural areas in various city parks. Also, city staffers lead a short nature walk at the end of each workday. Wear comfortable pants and closed-toe shoes. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. Today: a trip to the recently renamed **Mary Beth Doyle Park** (formerly Brown Park) to help spruce up the entrances for its grand opening in the fall. *10 a.m.–1 p.m., Mary Beth Doyle Park (meet in the parking lot at the Packard Rd. entrance between Stone School Rd. and Platt Rd.). Free. 996–3266.*

★**"Backyard Meteorology": U-M Exhibit Museum/Ann Arbor District Library.** See 11 Sunday. 10–11 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard), & *2–3 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall. Free. Preregistration required 2 weeks in advance. 764–0478.*

"35th Annual Dance for Mother Earth Ann Arbor Powwow": U-M Native American Student Association/Office of Multiethnic Student Affairs. *March 31 & April 1.* More than 10,000 visitors are expected to attend this gathering of Native Americans from

throughout the Great Lakes area, traditionally the largest such gathering in the state. Costumes range from the informal to spectacular authentic ceremonial outfits. The program includes social dancing and demonstrations of different styles of Native American dance, including fancy, traditional, grass dress, and jingle dress. The big attractions this weekend are children and adult dancing contests in a variety of styles. The dancers are accompanied by several different Native American drumming ensembles from all over North America. Grand entries at noon both days & 7 p.m. on March 31 only. Other attractions include display and sale of traditional crafts and food. *10:30 a.m.–10 p.m. (Mar. 31) & 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (Apr. 1), Crisler Arena. Daily admission: $10 (students, $7; seniors 60 & older and kids ages 4–12, $5; kids 3 & under, free; family, $25) per day & $15 weekend pass in advance and at the door. To charge by phone: 763–TKTS; information: 647–6999.*

"The Wiz": Tappan Players. See 29 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Community Dance Day": EMU Convocation Center. A day of dance master classes by EMU dance faculty and guest artists culminates in this concert showcasing the choreography of area choreographers, including Lourdes Bastos, Suzanne Willets Brooks, Holly Hobbs of Dance Theater Studio, John Chiapuris of Community School of Ballet, Pamela Rutledge of Pamela's School of Dance, Sara Fergus of Spotlight Dance Studio, and Marie Aversa-Rabey and Carrie Riess Riley of Bunny Sanford's School of Dance in Livonia. *4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Tickets $6 in advance at the EMU Convocation Center and at the door. 487–2282.*

"A Taste of Haiti": First Presbyterian Church Haiti Medical Mission Task Force. An authentic Haitian dinner prepared by Guerda Harris, a Haitian American who works at the Back Alley Gourmet. Accompanied by live or recorded Haitian music and followed by showings of excerpts from the 2005 documentary *Once There Was a Country: Revisiting Haiti*, the short video *Hope for Nursing in Haiti: Building for Tomorrow*, and videos of actual mobile clinics. Also a short talk on the church's Haiti mission. Q&A. Display and sale of works in various media by contemporary Haitian artists. *6 p.m., First Presbyterian Church social hall, 1432 Washtenaw. $10 (family, $25) minimum donation. 662–4466.*

★**"Prints and Cameras": Ann Arbor Black-and-White Photography Co-op.** All invited to join a group discussion. Also, new member orientation. *7 p.m., Shaman Drum, 315 S. State. Free. 846–4492.*

"Champions of the West": Thurston Community Players. See 29 Thursday. 7 p.m.

U-M Men's Lacrosse vs. Arizona State. *7:30 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, Hoover at S. State. $6 (students, $3). 764–0247.*

★**"A Cozy Evening of Cello Music": Cellochan.** Students in this local cello program perform solo and ensemble works by Bach, Saint-Saens, and Popper. Reception follows. *7:30 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 662–2325.*

★**Chopin Piano Series: U-M School of Music.** See 6 Tuesday. Today: Greene performs Variation no. 6 and 8 mazurkas. Also, Angela Wu performs a nocturne and a waltz, Dmitri Vorobiev performs 2 polonaises, Jei-Yern Ryu performs a scherzo, and Svetlana Smolina performs *Twenty-four Preludes*. The program begins with a talk by U-M music professor Jason Geary. 7:30 p.m.

"In Full Stride": River Raisin Ragtime Revue. William Hayes leads this 13-member Tecumseh-based ensemble of area musicians in a program highlighting composers and performers of stride, a jazz piano style with blue notes, improvisation, and swing rhythms that grew from ragtime and was popularized by East Coast pianists like James P. Johnson, Willie "The Lion" Smith, C. Luckyth Roberts, and Eubie Blake. A Los Angeles Jazz Scene critic describes the Revue's music as "charming and beautiful." *7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 300 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Tickets $15 (seniors, $12; youth age 18 & younger, $10) in advance and at the door. (517) 423–1962.*

★**"The Trial of Tom Sawyer": Young Actors Guild.** See 30 Friday. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

"Hot Jazz Ball": Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. An evening of fox-trots, blues, tango, and Charleston dancing to the local 20s and 30s style dance orchestra Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings. Also, a floor show of period dance. Light refreshments. Vintage attire (see vintagedance.com/wear.htm) encouraged but not required. Preceded at 2 p.m. by a $5 workshop (free for those attending the ball) in Jazz Age dance styles. *8–11 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $30. 769–0041.*

★**Creative Arts Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Performance by this accomplished 21-member U-M music student ensemble, which "raised the roof" at a recent Edgefest and has performed at New York's Knitting Factory and at the Ford Detroit International Festival. The group's instruments range from didgeridoo to something called a "Buddha machine." Program TBA. Accompanied by bassist Henry Grimes. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10, $15, & $25. Reservations suggested. 764–0583.*

Charlie King: The Ark. East Coast singer-songwriter Charlie King, who composes in the populist tradition of Woody Guthrie and Phil Ochs, is widely regarded as one of the finest contemporary topical songwriters. As a performer, he has been called the natural successor to Pete Seeger, who is among King's fans, calling him "one of the most brilliant and agile singers and songwriters I know of." King's songs about the problems, triumphs, absurdities, and deeper aspirations of common people's lives are distinguished by a rich humor and pathos, and he is gifted with a storytelling genius that shows up both in his lyrics and in his between-songs monologues. His songs range from "Two Good Arms," a powerful retelling of the Sacco and Vanzetti story that has been recorded by Holly Near and Ronnie Gilbert, to the middle-class lament "The Rats Are Winning." A big favorite with local audiences, he performs tonight in a duo with **Karen Brandow,** a vocalist who sings in both English and Spanish. The duo recently released a live CD, *On the Journey*, which *Sing Out!* praises as "hard-hitting protest music." A fund-raiser for the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $15 in advance from the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice, $14 at the door. 663–1870.*

David Krakauer's Klezmer Madness: University Musical Society. Internationally acclaimed clarinetist-composer Krakauer, one of the foremost musicians in the new wave of klezmer, says his mission is to "keep klezmer out of the museum." His fiery, soulful, infectiously energetic music attains the effects of both a solar flare and a tapestry by drawing on elements of hip-hop, funk, jazz, rock, classical and avant-garde concert music while preserving klezmer's vibrant, distinctively Jewish core. Klezmer Madness not only "hurls the tradition of klezmer music into the rock era," as *New York Times* critic Jon Pareles said, it propels it out over the edge of familiarity so seductively that the listener follows at a run. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $22–$42 in advance at the Michigan League Box Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764–2538.*

Women's History Month Celebration: DWOT Productions. Performances by local women performing artists in various media, poetry by Chinyere Knight and Marja Lankinen, a dramatic monologue and a song by Anna Rose Kessler Moore, comedy by Terrye Summers, choral music by members of the U-M Women's Glee Club, and belly dancers from Unveiled Studio in Ypsilanti. A benefit for the Women's Center of Southeastern Michigan. *8–11 p.m., Firefly Club, 207 S. Ashley. $10 (students, $8) donation. 995–1467.*

U-M Residential College 23rd Annual Deutsches Theater. *March 31 & April 1.* Residential College German language lecturer Janet Hegman Shier directs RC students in scenes from contemporary German plays exploring themes of horror from fairy tales as they surface in daily life. Detailed program notes and supertitles are provided to make the performance enjoyable even to those who don't understand German. Proceeds donated to charity. *8 p.m., RC auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. $5 (or nonperishable food) suggested donation. 647–4378.*

"A Wider Lens": U-M Dance Department M.F.A. Thesis Concert. See 29 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Hazing the Monkey": P.T.D. Productions. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Good Person of Setzuan": EMU Theater Department. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

"The Grand Duke": U-M Gilbert and Sullivan Society. See 29 Thursday. The evening performance is followed by a dessert sing-along ($5). 1 & 8 p.m.

"Candida": Performance Network Professional Season. See 8 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Damnation Game": Improv Inferno. See 3 Saturday. 8 p.m.

Jackie Kashian: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 29 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

FILMS

MTF. "The Namesake" (Jeff Lipsky, 2006). See 30 Friday. Mich., times TBA. **U-M Center for Chinese Studies. "Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles"** (Zhang Yimou, 2006). Moving tale of a Japanese father who journeys to a remote region of China seeking reconciliation with his estranged son. Ken Takakura. Mandarin & Japanese, subtitles. No children under 12 admitted. FREE. 764–6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A, 7 p.m.

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See p. 138 for details

IN FULL STRIDE!

East Coast "Stride" Ragtime performed by the

River Raisin Ragtime Revue

Music of:

James P. Johnson

Eubie Blake

Willie "The Lion" Smith

Thomas "Fats" Waller

Luckey Roberts

Saturday, March 31 2007
7:30pm

First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti
300 N. Washington St.

Tickets available at the door

www.ragtimeband.org (517) 423-1962

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Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

These bookings come from information available at press time. Last-minute changes are always possible, so to be certain who's playing, it's advisable to call ahead. Unless otherwise noted, live music runs from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

The Ark

316 S. Main **761-1451**

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Ark shows are included in the daily Events listings. **Mar. 14 & 21: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. $3 (members & students, $2). 7:30–10 p.m.

Banfield's

3140 Packard Rd. **971–3300**

This east-side sports bar features live music or a DJ on Sat., 8 p.m.–midnight. Dancing, no cover. **Mar. 31: The HillRays.** Popular Ypsilanti bluegrass band that also plays some honky-tonk, western swing, and gospel tunes.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. **996–8555**

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, occasional early shows, 7–10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. **Mar. 1: Renovaudio.** Heavy melodic rock by this local band. Opening acts are **Resonant Sound,** a local rock band, and **The Debt,** also a local rock band. **Mar. 2: The Paybacks.** Detroit garage band led by former WCBN "Blastoff Girl" Wendy Case. Opening acts are **The Offramps** and **The Groodies. Mar. 3: Whitey Morgan & the Waycross, Georgia, Farm Boys.** Detroit retro outlaw honky-tonk band. Opening acts are **Orbitsuns,** a Detroit rockabilly-flavored rock 'n' roll quartet, and **Dirt Road Logic,** a 70s-style rock 'n' roll band fronted by singer-guitarist Eric Kelly and featuring 3 former members of American Cosmos. The band has a new CD, *Great Lake Heartache*. **Mar. 4: The Clipse.** Popular hardcore hip-hop duo based in Virginia Beach. See Events. **Mar. 6: Pelican.** Trance-metal instrumentals by this Chicago quartet. Opening acts are **Russian Circles** and **Young Widows.** See Events. **Mar. 7: Page France.** Melodic, emotionally direct, neoprimitivist pop-folk band from Maryland. *Hip Left* magazine reviewer Gordon Isnor calls the band's new CD *Hello Dear Wind* a collection of "compelling, poetic, mysterious lyrics set to sweet and gentle melodies sung primarily by Michael Nau, with big beautiful female harmonies by Whitney McGraw, backed up by magnificent production centered around acoustic guitar with nice subtle additions of bells and shakers, easy-breezy kick drums, and flower-power tambourines." Opening acts are **Canada,** a popular local experimental pop-folk septet that features 2 cellists, and **The Pop Project,** a Detroit-area indie pop-rock quartet. **Mar. 8: Akron/Family.** Psychedelic bluegrass quartet from Brooklyn, New York. Opening act is **The Silent Years.** See Events. **Mar. 9: Back Forty.** Local acoustic string quartet that plays twangy roots-folk music fused with elements of jazz and rock. Opening act is **Covert Operations,** a Flint bluegrass-jam band. **Mar. 10: Mason Proper.** Offbeat local avant-noise pop-rock band. Opening act are **The Dead Bodies,** a Detroit pop-rock garage band, and **The Great Lakes Myth Society.** Local folk-rock sextet whose music is an eclectic mix of Appalachian music, prog-rock, and sea shanties. Led by singer-songwriter-guitarists Tim and Jamie Monger, who also play accordion and mandolin, respectively. **Mar. 13: The Colour.** *All ages admitted*. LA. postpunk rock'n'roll quartet. Opening acts TBA. See Events. **Mar. 14:** TBA. **Mar. 15: Greenstreet.** Very popular Dave Matthews–style funk-rock quartet from Troy. Opening acts are Ypsilanti hip-hop MC **Nae Smiles,** the local acoustic indie rock quartet **Jae Stevens,** Troy singer-songwriter **Tom Butwin,** the all-female U-M student rock band **The Midnight Special,** the local acoustic pop-rock singer-songwriter **Danny Freeman,** and the **Ann Arbor Word Works Performance Poetry Troupe. Mar. 16: The Dirty Americans.** Detroit rock 'n' roll quartet. Opening acts are **The Disregarded.** See Events. **Mar. 17: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. 10 p.m.–4 a.m. **Mar. 20: "Showcase Night."** With 4 different young local bands. **Mar. 21: "Your Hip-Hop."** Local hip-hop MCs TBA. **Mar. 22: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. Mar**. 23: South Normal.** Popular Chelsea quartet whose anthemic rock 'n' roll originals are known for their tight arrangements, imaginatively varied rhythms, garage-band versatility, and slacker attitude. Opening acts are **Overloaded,** a Detroit heavy-metal band, and **Mound,** a Detroit rock 'n' roll band. **Mar. 24: The Zuma Band.** Local dancehall reggae band, formerly known as Killa-Watt, whose music mixes in elements of hip-hop and other idioms. **Mar. 25: The Long Winters.** Melodic R.E.M.-influenced indie rock Seattle band. Opening acts are **Bound Stems** and **Stars of Track and Field.** See Events. **Mar. 27: "Showcase Night."** See above. **Mar. 28: Jonny No-Stars.** Local psychedelic rock band. **Mar. 29: VAST.** Postgrunge rock band from California that blends elements of industrial, ambient, and electronica. See Events. **Mar. 30: Jamie Register Project.** See Melange. **Mar. 31: Athletic Mic League.** Local hip-hop Collective Opening acts are **Now On,** a hip-hop ensemble fronted by former Funktelligence vocalists Mike Demps and Jackson Perry, and the local hip-hop MCs **Buff 1** and **S.U.N.**

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Black Train

Americana covers

The great thing about being a folk-rock cover band in the 21st century is there's so much darn good music to cover. The challenge is to make it sound good when so many professionals have already recorded these songs. Local band Black Train not only draws from a wide-ranging repertoire but also offers inspired interpretations. After listening to a set at Crazy Wisdom Tea Room with songs by Bonnie Raitt, Neil Young, Lyle Lovett, the Who, Woody Guthrie, and Lucinda Williams, I wanted to call out other favorites just to hear what the band could do.

Black Train brings together seasoned local musicians who are long past learning instruments, songs, or how to be in a band. So they're free to just enjoy each other's talent while performing the soundtrack of their own lives (compiled in a thick black binder on a music stand). They chose their name because "we play so many train songs," rhythm guitarist and vocalist Vicki Dischler explained while introducing Fred Eaglesmith's "I Like Trains."

Kevin Lentz plays a bass line that walks and talks, and drummer Paul Koch completes the rhythm section with understated power—I'd like to hear him unleashed in a more boisterous setting than the Tea Room. These musicians lay the perfect foundation for the remarkable lead guitar sounds of Randall Beek, equally skilled at bluesy slide, country-style picking, and rock-god string-bending solos. The band gives him time in almost every number to show off forty-plus years of guitar playing experience.

Just about everyone sings, but the lead vocals are usually carried by Vicki—who has a resonant, gravelly voice just right for the blues—or singer-guitarist Kristen Uthus, whose higher, brighter voice is strong both as lead and in harmony with others. Put all together, Black Train's full sound felt like a lot for the Tea Room—and that was before they rocked the house with "Mama's got a squeeze box/Daddy never sleeps at night."

The above-average-age white crowd at the packed Tea Room looked wisely appreciative of this band of peers, but Black Train would offer a perfect introduction to Americana for teenagers—if their parents could convince them to check it out. The band rarely performs in bars. Families should look for Black Train at the Art Fair, farmers' markets, and coffee shops like Pierce's Pastries Plus in Chelsea.

Black Train isn't writing any originals, putting out its own CD, or even playing very often. But when these musicians come together in this configuration, it's an excuse to combine their varied passions to play—and play with—the songs they've always loved. They aren't on the way up, or looking to break out. They're simply at the top of their game.

Black Train is at Crazy Wisdom Friday, March 30.

—Stephanie Kadel-Taras

folk-rock

Campus Chapel Coffeehouse

1236 Washtenaw Ct. **668–7421**

Monthly acoustic showcase in the Campus Chapel basement, 8:30–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. Free refreshments. March schedule TBA.

Cavern Club

210 S. First St. **913–8890**

This downtown club in the Celebration Cellars basement banquet space features live music on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, the complex has 2 street-level clubs, the Millennium Club, which features MTV-style video hits on plasma screens, and Gotham City, which features DJs with house music, Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to all 3 clubs) Sat. only, dancing. Age 18 & older admitted. **Mar 2: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular, veteran band from Dearborn. **Mar. 3: 50 Amp Fuse.** 70s and 80s classic rock by this Detroit band. **Mar. 9: Club DJs.** DJs play hip-hop records. **Mar. 10: Killer Flamingos.** See above. **Mar. 16: Club DJs.** See above. **Mar. 17: 50 Amp Fuse.** See above. **Mar. 23: Club DJs.** See above. **Mar. 24: The Vox Pop.** Alternative pop-rock covers by this Dearborn quartet fronted by Wrenfields vocalist Noreen Novrocki. **Mar. 30: Club DJs.** See above. **Mar. 31: Killer Flamingos.** See above.

Club Above

215 N. Main **663–7758**

This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg restaurant features DJs Thurs.–Sun., 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m., and live happy hour bands on Fri., 5–8 p.m. Also, karaoke on Wed., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. Age 21 & older only unless otherwise noted. **Every Fri.: Latino Night.** DJ Xcess plays salsa, merengue, reggae, and other Latin dance records. Also, salsa lessons, 9–10 p.m. **Every Sun.: Mexican Night.** With DJ Miguel or a live Mexican band. **Every Sat.: "80s Night."** DJ Saladin plays 80s dance music. A fund-raiser for annarboralive.com Internet radio. **Every Thurs.: Electronica, House, & Techno.** With DJ Nate of Deep Blue. **Mar. 2** (5:30–8:30 p.m.)**: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by Kingpins bassist Randy Tessier and featuring former Map of the World vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis, Steve Earle, and U2. The band has a new 4-song minidisk, *Clean House,* an election-year collection that includes 2 originals, a cover of Stephen Stills's 1968 protest classic *For What It's Worth,* and an original setting of Auden's 1939 poem "Refugee Song." **Mar. 9** (5:30–8:30 p.m.)**: Jim Tate Trio.** A veteran local honky-tonk singer-guitarist with a varied repertoire, Tate is joined by bassist Chris Goerke and drummer Mark Newbound. **Mar. 16** (5:30–8:30 p.m.)**: Mike Smith & the Cadillac Cowboys.** *Tentative.* Veteran local country band led by singer-guitarist Smith. **Mar. 23** (5:30–8:30 p.m.)**: Dan Mulholland Band.** New local band led by veteran rocker Mulholland. **Mar. 20** (5:30–8:30 p.m.)**: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by vocalist Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everything from early Chuck Berry to Sam & Dave to the Meters. The band's guiding presence seems to be Elvis—including both large chunks of his repertoire and his attitude that any music he did suited him just because he did it. The band also includes guitarist George Bedard, pedal steel guitarist Mark O'Boyle, bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King.

Club Bedrocks

2900 Jackson Rd. **665–4444**

Lounge in the Best Western Suites. DJs on Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Fri.: "Mix & Mingle."** DJs spin old school, R&B, reggae, techno, and hip-hop dance records. **Every Sat.: Latino Night.** DJs play Latin dance music.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main **665–2968**

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. (7:30–10 p.m.) and Tues.–Thurs. and occasional other nights (9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m.). **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. Followed at 10 p.m. by karaoke. **Every Tues.: Jerry Sprague Band.** Roots-rock band led by veteran local singer-guitarist Sprague. **Mar. 1: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Mar. 7: Shaun Gareth Walker.** Local singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **Mar. 8: The**

Hummingbirds. See Old Town. **Mar. 14: Rob Bugar.** Folk-rock singer-guitarist. **Mar. 15: Michael May & the Messarounds.** See Goodnite Gracie. **Mar. 21: Mossy Moran.** See above. **Mar. 22: Bruno's Boys.** Traditional Irish songs of drinking and rebellion, accompanied on a wide array of instruments, by this Detroit-area duo. **Mar. 28: Shaun Gareth Walker.** See above. **Mar. 29: Rob Bugar.** See above.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main **665–9468**

This tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8:30–10:30 p.m. **Mar. 2: Spencer Michaud,** a local singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist whose music blends Motown, Tin Pan Alley, and folk influences. **Mar. 3: XD Wei.** Led by Xian Dong Wei, who sings and plays *erhu* (a 2-string Chinese fiddle), this Detroit quartet plays arty, cerebral music that blends a wide array of jazz, rock, bluegrass, and ethnic folk influences. **Mar. 9: Tracy Kash Thomas.** Detroit jazz singer-songwriter, a member of the all-female quartet Lorelei, who plays flute and piano. Opening act is Detroit singer-songwriter and guitarist **Daniel Gerics. Mar. 10: Billy King.** Country-flavored pop-folk by local singer-songwriter and guitarist King, who is joined by vocalist Kristen Uthus and others. **Mar. 16: The Hummingbirds.** See Old Town. **Mar. 17: Bill Bynum & Company.** Local bluegrass and hard-country singer-songwriter Bynum is joined by dobro virtuoso David Kenny and fiddler Lisa Case. **Mar. 23: Jimmy Mack & the Juke Joint Johnnies.** Local roots-rock quartet led by former Starlight Drifters singer-guitarist Mack whose repertoire includes originals and rockabilly, early rock 'n' roll, western swing, and hillbilly bop covers. **Mar. 24: Joe Reilly.** Local singer-songwriter whose songs draw on blues, Native American, and other traditional American idioms. **Mar. 30: Black Train.** *See review, p. 116.* Young local roots music quintet that features hard-core country vocal harmonies. **Mar. 31: Mark Duval.** Indie Americana singer-songwriter from Kalamazoo whose repertoire also include covers by everyone from Gillian Welch and Iron & Wine to various Michigan songwriters. He is accompanied by singer-guitarist Traci Seuss.

Creekside Grill and Bar

5827 Jackson Rd. **827–2737**

The intimate bar area of this restaurant in Scio Township features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 2: Jay Stielstra.** Highly regarded veteran local folk-country singer-songwriter especially known for his songs about the Michigan back country, many of them featured in his popular folk operas. **Mar. 9: Danny Gutowski & Chris Goerke.** The duo of local country singer Gutowski and bassist Goerke. **Mar. 16: Jim Tate & Chris Goerke.** The veteran honky-tonk duo of singer-guitarist Tate and bassist Goerke features a varied repertoire and resonant vocal harmonies. **Mar. 17: The Copycats.** Harmony-driven vintage rock by this local quartet whose repertoire ranges from the Beatles, Dylan, and CCR to Pink Floyd and Jethro Tull. **Mar. 23: Mike Smith & the Cadillac Cowboys.** *Tentative.* See Club Above. **Mar. 25: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-30s swing and 40s R&B. **Mar. 30:** TBA.

The Earle

121 W. Washington **994–0211**

Restaurant with live jazz Mon.–Sat., 8–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Mon.: Rick Burgess.** Solo pianist. **Every Tues.: Duncan McMillan.** Solo pianist. **Every Wed.: Rick Burgess.** Solo pianist. **Every Thurs.: Jake Reichbart.** Solo guitarist. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Rick Burgess Trio.** Jazz ensemble featuring pianist Burgess, drummer Robert Warren, and bassist Russel Tessier.

Elbow Room

6 S. Washington, Ypsilanti **483–6374**

This Ypsilanti tavern features live music and/or DJs Mon.–Thurs., 9 p.m.–1 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional Sun., 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. **Every Mon.: "House Night."** With DJ Kriss. **Every Tues.: "Dance Night."** With DJ Conner. **Every Wed.: Open Mike Jam.** All musicians invited. **Every Thurs.: "Mofo Karaoke."** With "the standard karaoke playlist crap plus 2,500+ obscure and awesome songs." **Mar. 2: Natural Monuments.** Local pop-rock quartet. Opening acts are the Canton indie rock quartet **The Word Play,** the Marion, Indiana, pop-rock band **Rodeo Ruby Love,** and the McAllen, Texas, emo sextet **Dignan. Mar. 3: Brandon Wiard & the Saviors,** a local band led by highly regarded local folk-flavored country-pop singer-songwriter Wiard. Opening acts are the Detroit psychedelic Americana band **Duende!,** the Philadelphia experimental roots music trio **Hoots & Hellmouth,** and the acoustic pop-folk **The Jehovah's Witness Protection Program. Mar. 9: Alpine Tanker 11.** Alternative-rock garage band from Adrian. Opening acts are **Jealous Type,** a local rock 'n' roll band, and **Two Roads to Mexico,** a melodic emocore band from Ypsilanti formerly known as Dropjaw. **Mar. 10: The 77s.** Ypsilanti band formerly known as Los Drogas that plays loud, raucous, melodic, bluesy, surf-guitar rockabilly. Opening acts are the Ypsilanti experimental rock band **Loosestrife,** the local alternative rock band **David Grammer & the Periods,** and the Ypsilanti pop-noise singer-songwriter **Safety Kit. Mar. 14: "Indie Folkie Night."** With local singer-songwriters **Jenn Solheim, Annie Palmer,** and **Adam Arscott. Mar. 16: "The Festival of Saints and Sinners."** With belly dancers and a variety of sideshow acts, including a human dart-board, contact juggling, tests of strength, burlesque dances, and more. **Mar. 17: GoTo10s.** 80s cover band. Opening acts are the Lansing pop-grunge band **Royal Affairs,** the local neo–new wave band **Minor Planets,** and the local psychedelic-blues garage trio **Sik Sik Nation. Mar. 21: The Robin Horlock Band.** Northville pop-rock band. Opening acts are **Suarez,** a local indie rock quartet, and **Overview,** a San Francisco indie rock band. **Mar. 23: Deetrick Furrys.** White Lake pop-thrash band. Opening acts are **Counter Cosby,** a local band that plays sarcastic, goofy, prog-rock metal, and **Wild Trees,** an experimental progressive funk band from Toledo. **Mar. 24: A Working Model.** Local progressive rock quartet whose influences range from King Crimson to Tool. Opening acts are **Idol and the Whip,** a local rock trio, and **SideProject,** a Detroit progressive rock quintet. **Mar. 30: Wildcatting.** Ypsilanti metal-rock band featuring former members of Bear vs. Shark. Opening acts are the Detroit ambient rock band **Buffalo,** the local rock band **In Civilian Clothing,** and Ypsilanti gothic-punk quartet **Eat the Evidence. Mar. 31: Astro Zombies.** Howell punk-rock quartet. Opening acts are the Bowling Green, Ohio, retro country band **Bigfoot & the Fully Automatics,** the Bowling Green, Ohio, punk-ska quintet **Midget Finger,** and **Coke Dick Motorcycle Awesome.** Local metal-edged punk-rock band led by singer-guitarist Ben Igrisan.

The Firefly Club

207 S. Ashley **665–9090**

Jazz and blues club that was recently named Best Metro Detroit Jazz Club by the *Detroit Free Press.* Live jazz Mon., occasional Tues., Wed., & Thurs., 8 p.m.–midnight; Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.–1 a.m.; & Sun., 8:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. Also, happy-hour music Thurs., Fri., & Sun., 5–8 p.m. Sun. jazz brunch, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Cover (unless otherwise noted), dancing. **Every Fri.** (5:30–8 p.m.)**: Easy Street Swingtet.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Paul Klinger. **Every Sun.** (5–8 p.m.)**: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 20s and early 30s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. The rest of the lineup includes 3 saxophonists/clarinetists, 2 trumpeters, a trombonist, a guitarist/banjo player, and a drummer. **Every Sun.: "Elevation."** Funk and hip-hop by DJ Graffiti and other DJs TBA. Also, an open mike session. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band, formerly known as the Bird of Paradise Orchestra, led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist (and Firefly Club owner) Susan Chastain. **Every Wed.: Paul Keller Ensemble.** High-energy mainstream jazz by this ensemble led by bassist Keller that features 3 horns. **Every Thurs.: Los Gatos.** Mambos and cha-chas by this local Latin jazz band that specializes in the music of Cal Tjader, the late San Francisco vibes player who ignited the 50s mambo craze. Led by drummer Pete Siers, the group also includes vibes player Cary Kocher, bassist Kurt Krahnke, pianist Brian DiBlassio, and percussionist Jonathan Ovalle. Preceded at 7 p.m. by Latin dance lessons ($5 includes cover for the band). **Mar. 2:** TBA. **Mar. 3: "Detroit's Great Women of Jazz."** With Detroit women jazz musicians TBA. **Mar. 9: Rachel Z.** Acclaimed young New York City jazz pianist. See Events. **Mar. 10: Claudia Schmidt Quartet.** Jazz ensemble led by vocalist Schmidt. See Events. **Mar. 13: "Cabaret Night."** With performers TBA. **Mar. 16: Grazyna Auguscik.** This Polish jazz vocalist is backed by Goran Ivanovic's **Eastern Blok.** See Events. **Mar. 17: "Peckers Night."** Billed as "The Firefly's answer to Hooters." Further elucidation TBA. **Mar. 20:**

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The Cool Moose Orchestra. Ensemble of local middle and high school jazz musicians led by Glen Tucker. **Mar. 23: Tierney Sutton.** *Tentative.* L.A.-based jazz singer. See Events. 9 & 11 p.m. **Mar. 24: Ellen Rowe Quartet.** Jazz ensemble led by pianist Rowe, a U-M music professor. **Mar. 27: Tad Weed Freedom Ensemble.** Progressive to mainstream jazz by an all-star ensemble led by this highly regarded pianist, a Jackson, Michigan, native. With saxophonist Andrew Bishop, Detroit bassist Tim Flood, and Los Gatos drummer Pete Siers. **Mar. 30: The Sheryl Bailey Three.** Jazz trio led by Bailey, an acclaimed young postbop composer-guitarist from New York. See Events. **Mar. 31: DWOT Productions Women's History Month Celebration.** Performances by local women performing artists in various media. See Events. 8–11 p.m.

Goodnite Gracie

301 W. Huron **623–2070**

Martini and cigar bar below Live at PJ's lounge. Live jazz Wed.–Sat., 9:30 p.m.–1 a.m. **Every Tues.: "Groove Tuesday."** DJ Mechial White plays house and pop dance records. **Every Wed.: Lucas Paul Band.** Local quartet led by pop-rock singer-songwriter. **Every Fri: Lester Blues.** Local guitar-based blues band. **Mar. 1: Nick Strange Trio.** Popular local jazz-rock fusion dance band whose music draws variously on blues, reggae, calypso, and other idioms. **Mar. 3: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. The band has a CD, *Well Tuned*. With guitarist Dave Fero, blues harpist and keyboardist Phil Ryski, saxophonist Willie Rankin, bassist Wendy Hayes, and drummer Lenny Gilpatrick. **Mar. 8: Al Hill Band.** See Melange. **Mar. 10: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet, formerly known as Blue Infusion, led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Mar. 15: S. G. Ensemble.** Local jazz ensemble fronted by vocalists Sarah Grogan and Sara Grieshaber. **Mar. 17: "St. Patrick's Day Live-a-palooza."** With 15 different bands TBA. 9 a.m.–2 a.m. **Mar. 22: Michael May & the Messarounds.** See above. **Mar. 24: The Alligators.** R&B and blues band from Detroit. **Mar. 29: Nick Strange Trio.** See above.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd. **769–9800**

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features country bands on Fri. and a DJ on Sat., 9 p.m.–1 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Fri.: "Latin Night."** DJ Ronnie Lucas spins salsa, bachata, merengue, reggaeton, and cumbaya dance records. **Every Sat: "Old School."** DJ Royce plays jazz and Motown dance records.

The Habitat Ultralounge

3050 Jackson Rd. **665–3636**

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs., 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, solo piano by **Tim Knapp** (Tues.–Thurs., Sat., & Sun.) and **Adam Riccinto** (Fri.), 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: "Monday Groove."** With DJ Mechial White. 7 p.m.–midnight. **Mar. 1: Al Hill Band.** See Melange. **Mar. 2 & 3: Sun Messengers.** Popular, versatile 10-piece ensemble from Detroit that plays everything from Latin and African dance music to blues and rock. **Mar. 6–8: Herbie Russ.** Solo saxophonist. **Mar. 9 & 10: Scoot Magoo.** Allen Park rock 'n' roll quintet. **Mar. 13–17: No Romance.** Hard-rocking college pop cover band from East Lansing featuring former members of Soulstice. **Mar. 20–22: Destiny.** Jackson-area band that plays Latin dance pop. **Mar. 23 & 24: Starfarm.** 70s, 80s, 90s, and contemporary rock covers by this East Lansing quintet led by vocalist Amanda Meredith and singer-guitarist Dan Malnar. **Mar. 27–29: Michael May & the Messarounds.** See Goodnite Gracie. **Mar. 30: 50 Amp Fuse.** See Cavern Club. **Mar. 31: Newsmaker.** Motown party band.

The Halfass

Church St. entrance to East Quad **764–8558**

Informal student-dominated cafe, formerly known as the Halfway Inn. Occasional live music, 9 p.m.–1 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Mar. 9: His Name Is Alive.** Acclaimed dance-rock ensemble, led by Livonia native Warren Defever on guitar and keyboard, that blends bizarre lyrics with the airy rapt vocals of 2 female singers with naive melodies and dreamily atmospheric instrumental effects. Opening acts are **Zoos of Berlin,** a Detroit experimental pop quintet, and **MC Trashpedal,** an electronica-noise musician. **Mar. 23: Castanets.** Brooklyn, New York, band that plays a brand of psychedelic blues-rock band known as freak folk. Opening acts are the Castanets' Asthmatic Kitty labelmates **Shapes & Sizes,** an indie rock quartet from Victoria, British Columbia, and **Canada,** a popular local experimental pop-folk septet that features 2 cellists.

Leonardo's

2101 Bonisteel Blvd. **764–7544**

Performance area in the food court at the Pierpont Commons on the U-M North Campus. Dancing, no cover. **Mar. 15 & 29: Jazz Jam Session.** All jazz musicians invited. 8–10 p.m.

Live at PJ's

102 S. First St. **623–1443**

This jazz lounge features live music Wed., 9 p.m.–2 a.m.; Thurs., 10:30 p.m.–2 a.m.; and Fri. & Sat., 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (Fri. & Sat. after 10:30 p.m. only), dancing. The club also hosts Improv Inferno (see Events listings). Thurs., 8–10:30 p.m.; Fri. & Sat., 8–9:30 p.m.; & Sun., 8–11:30 p.m. **Every Wed. & Thurs.: Laith Al-Saadi.** An eclectic mix of jazz, blues, R&B, Motown, and pop, including many originals, by a trio led by this local singer-guitarist. **Every Sat.** (except Mar. 17)**: "Club Night."** Retro, Top 40, and hip-hop dance party with DJ Mechial White. **Mar. 2: A.G.B.** Local trio that plays a high-energy mix of funk, rock, and jam. **Mar. 9: Laith Al-Saadi.** See above. **Mar. 16: Ultraviolet.** Detroit band that plays 80s & 90s rock hits. **Mar. 17: "St. Patrick's Day Live-a-palooza."** With 15 different bands TBA. 9 a.m.–2 a.m. **Mar. 23: Lucas Paul Band.** See Goodnite Gracie. **Mar. 30: Marcus Collins Project.** Soulful R&B with a hip-hop accent by this Detroit band that includes 4 former members of Funktelligence.

Melange Subterranean Bistro

314 S. Main **222–0202**

The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music or DJs Wed.–Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Wed.: "House & Funk."** With DJ Jacob Alexander. **Every Thurs.: Lucas Paul Band.** See Goodnite Gracie. **Mar. 2: Jamie Register Project.** Motownesque soul music by a band led by local singer-bassist Register. **Mar. 3: Kris K Band.** Local quartet led by singer-guitarist Kris Kurzawa that plays jazz, soul, and avant-funk covers and originals. **Mar. 9: Relativity.** Detroit jazz ensemble led by bassist Damon Warmack. **Mar. 10: Blackman & Arnold.** Gypsy jazz by a quartet led by guitarists Sean Blackman and John Arnold. **Mar. 16: Jamie Register Project.** See above. **Mar. 17: Blackman & Arnold.** See above. **Mar. 23: BusStop.** Smart, playful rock 'n' roll with a funky R&B edge by this Royal Oak band fronted by Julia Ingalls whose repertoire ranges from vintage Stevie Wonder and Steely Dan to Sheryl Crow, along with some originals. **Mar. 24: Jamie Register Project.** See above. **Mar. 30: Relativity.** See above. **Mar. 31: Al Hill Band.** Blues, R&B, and soul standards, originals, and obscurities by this local quartet led by Hill's wailing vocals and pumping piano.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty **994–5436**

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon. & Thurs.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover (Thurs.–Sat. after 10 p.m. only), dancing. **Every Sun.: "Vision Sunday."** Guest DJs spin house and techno records. **Every Mon.: "Factory."** DJ Jinx spins industrial, goth, and synth pop records. **Every Thurs.: "College Night."** DJ Hardy spins Top 40 and hip-hop records. **Every Fri.: "Pride."** With DJ Timmy D spinning high-energy dance tunes in the main room and, in the downstairs Red Room, DJ Mark playing retro music videos and DJ John G spinning Top 40 records. **Every Sat.: "Frequency."** In the main room DJ Binzo plays Top 40 hip-hop and dance music, and in the Red Room a variety of Top 40 music videos.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty **662–9291**

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. and occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Mar. 4: The Hummingbirds.** Twang-filled acoustic country and American roots music by the duo of local singer-guitarists S. G. Wood and Rachel Hercula. Winner of a Detroit Music Award as Best Country Band. **Mar. 11: Marco and Asim.** Folk-rock and blues by the local duo of singer-guitarist Marco Bruschtein and bassist Asim Khan. **Mar. 18: Bill Bynum & Company.** The local singer-songwriter and guitarist whose songs mix elements of country, rock, and bluegrass. With guitarist-mandolinist David Mosher and Dobro player Dave Keeney. **Mar. 25: Dan Orcutt.** Veteran local singer-songwriter best known through his blues-rock alter ego Nick Strange.

Oz

210 S. Fifth Ave. **222–4770**

Nightclub features DJs or live music Tues. & Wed., 8 p.m.–2 a.m.; Thurs.–Sat., 8 p.m.–4 a.m.; and occasional Sun., 6 p.m.–midnight. Cover after 11 p.m., dancing. **Every Fri.: International Night.** Arabic, Indian, and hip-hop music with DJ Fares. Also, a belly dancing show at midnight. **Every Sat.: Hip-Hop and Old Skool.** With DJ Fares.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard **662–8283**

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music Tues., Thurs., & occasional other nights, 7:30–9:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover, no dancing. **Mar. 6: "Songwriters Open Stage."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Mar. 9: "Local Color Music Showcase."** Performers TBA. **Mar. 13: "Anything Goes Open Stage."** All musicians invited. Hosted by Laura MacKimmie. **Mar. 20: "Open Stage Jam with Oz."** All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by Steve Osburn. **Mar. 23: "Local Color Music Showcase."** See above. **Mar. 27: "AASC Blues Highway 101."** Mickey Richard and Sue Nordman host a mostly acoustic blues jam session. All musicians invited.

The Quarter Bistro

300 S. Maple **929–9200**

This west-side restaurant features live music Thurs.–Sat., 7–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri.: The Groove-Matist.** Retro, Top 40, and hip-hop dance party with DJ Mechial White. **Every Sat.: Mike Moore.** Jazz guitarist. Remainder of March schedule TBA.

Rick's American Cafe

611 Church **996–2747**

This campus-area club features DJs Mon. & Wed.–Sat., 10 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Large dance floor. Dancing, cover. **Every Mon.: DJ Fro.** DJ spins dance records. **Every Wed.: DJ Big Daddie.** DJ spins dance records. **Every Thurs.: "Jammin' DJs."** DJs TBA play dance music. **Every Fri. & Sat.: DJ Big Daddie.** See above.

Rush Street

314 S. Main **913–0330**

The bar in this new downtown restaurant features DJs Thurs. and live music Sat., 10 p.m.–1:30 a.m. **Every Thurs.: Mechial White.** DJ plays an assortment of contemporary music. **Every Sat.:** Live music TBA.

Studio 4

313 S. Fourth Ave. **302–3687**

This dinner club features DJs Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m., playing a wide variety of dance music. Cover, dancing. Age 21 & older only. **Every Sat.: "Hip-Hop and House Night."** With DJ Jason "J Smooth" Doliveck.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti **482–5320**

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern hosts Monday open mikes, 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Mon.: Open Mike.** Hosted by the Martindales singer-guitarist Brian Brickley.

Tap Room Annex

205 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti **487–5544**

This tavern next door to the Tap Room features live acoustic music Thurs. & Sat., 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m.; Fri., 9–11 p.m.; and Sun., 7–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. **Every Thurs.: Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales,** a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All bands invited. **Mar. 2: John Latini & Friends.** Acoustic rock-based originals by this veteran local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter, who is joined by different guest musicians each week. Tonight's guests are local singer-songwriters **Jim Smith** and **Mike Gentry. Mar. 3: Gas for Less.** New local alt-country honky-tonk and rockabilly band led by singer-songwriter (and former Lucky Haskins frontman) Ryan Racine. Opening act is **Liam McKay & the Saints,** a Mount Pleasant indie folk-rock quartet led by singer-guitarist McKay. **Mar. 4: J-Qube.** Local jazz-rock-funk fusion trio led by guitarist Jake Reichbart and featuring former Smokestack members Jacob Chmara and Dan Eichinger. **Mar. 7: Spencer Michaud Presents.** Local singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist is joined by guest musicians each week. Tonight's guests are **The Alex Belhaj Band** and **Seth Grass. Mar. 9: John Latini & Friends.** See above. Tonight's guests are veteran Detroit singer-songwriters **John D. Lamb** and **Jack Spack. Mar. 10: Tumbao Bravo.** Cuban jazz quintet led by local saxophonist and flutist Paul VornHagen and percussionist Alberto Nacif. With pianist Sven Anderson, bassist John Barron, and Javier Barrios on timbales. **Mar. 11: Fourth Wish.** Ballads and blues standards and oddities by this local jazz quartet. Members are winds player Jon Margerum-Leys, keyboardist Tyler Driskill, bassist Eric Walters, and drummer Mike Morrison. **Mar. 14: Spencer Michaud Presents.** See above. Tonight's guest is **Need Based Paint,** a local folk-rock band led by Dardanelles singer-songwriter Brooks Thomas. **Mar. 16: Todd Deatherage & Friends.** Recently transplanted to Ann Arbor from New York City, Deatherage is a country-rock singer-songwriter originally from Dallas whom the *Village Voice* dubbed a "honky-tonk Elliott Smith." He is joined by 2 guest musicians TBA. **Mar. 17: Lady Sunshine & the X Band.** Local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, rich-voiced singer whose style is something of a cross between Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise LaSalle. **Mar. 18: Dave Sharp's Secret Seven.** Straight-ahead jazz by this ensemble led by veteran local bassist Sharp. **Mar. 21: Spencer Michaud Presents.** See above. Tonight's guest is **Mahoney,** a local acoustic experimental rock duo. **Mar. 23: Timothy Monger & Friends.** High lonesome originals by this engaging singer-songwriter-guitarist from the Great Lakes Myth Society. He is joined by 2 guest musicians TBA. **Mar. 24: The Martindales.** See above. **Mar. 25: Fourth Wish.** See above. **Mar. 28: Spencer Michaud Presents.** See above. Tonight's guests are **Patrick Elkins,** an Ypsilanti singer-songwriter whose shows also include performance art, poetry, and finger-puppetry, and **Jen Wilke,** an Ypsilanti singer-songwriter originally from the UP who calls her music "elecrophobe banjo rock." **Mar. 30: John Latini & Friends.** See above. Tonight's guests are former Tangerine Trousers guitarist **Pat Shanley** and Gas for Less singer-songwriter **Ryan Racine. Mar. 31: The Hummingbirds.** See Old Town.

TC's Speakeasy

207 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti **483–4470**

This downtown Ypsilanti tavern features a jam session on Mon., karaoke on Tues., DJs on Wed., and dance bands Thurs.–Sat., 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, poker tournaments, Sun., 7 & 10 p.m. Dancing, no cover unless otherwise noted. **Every Fri.** (6–9 p.m.)**: Rob Moses.** Local solo pianist. **Every Sun.: Local Music Night.** Bands TBA. **Every Mon.: Open Mike.** All musicians invited. Hosted by the local pop-folk jam band City Goat. **Mar. 2: Drunken Bus Driver.** Ypsilanti reggae-rock quartet. **Mar. 3: The Christy Howard Band.** Detroit blues band. **Mar. 9: Mahoney.** Local acoustic experimental rock duo. **Mar. 10: Sway.** Ypsilanti pop-rock band. Opening act is the **Andy Shaw Band,** a reggae-rock band from Columbus. **Mar. 16: Student Driver.** Detroit indie rock band. **Mar. 17: The Ragbirds.** Inventive local country-rock band, fronted by singer-songwriter Erin Zindle, whose music mixes in elements of world music, groove rock, and edgy pop, using a diverse mix of instruments, including violin, mandolin, banjo, accordion, acoustic guitar, and percussion elements from around the world, as well as the old-fashioned drumkit. Opening acts are the local ska and 80s-style pop quintet **Hullabaloo,** the local pop-folk jam band **City Goat,** the Brighton jazz-funk folk-rock band **The New Tricks,** and **Paul's Big Radio,** a rootsy country-pop band led by local singer-songwriter Paul Lippens. A St. Patrick's Day party with door prizes, beer pong, and more. **Mar. 23: Jesse Passage.** Acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter from Dearborn. Opening act TBA. **Mar. 24: Red, White, & Booze,** an 80s metal tribute band. Opening act is **Wound,** an alternative rock band from Dearborn. **Mar. 30: Stash.** Detroit pop-reggae jam band. **Mar. 31: Trace the Veins.** Ypsilanti punk-rock quartet. ■

Personals

Personals Key

A=Asian
B=Black
C=Christian
D=Divorced
F=Female
G=Gay
H=Hispanic
H/WP=Height & Weight Proportionate
ISO=In Search Of
J=Jewish
✍=Letters
LTR=Long Term Relationship
M=Male
ND=Nondrinker
NS=Nonsmoker
☎=Phone Calls
P=Professional
S=Single
W=White

Women Seeking Men

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

DWCF, 53, NS, with everything but the guy! Happy with my life, ISO the right man to share it with. ISO D/S, WCM, 40s to 50s, NS. Enjoy simple pleasures, simple lifestyle. ☎5680✍

Like-minded SM voter wanted. YEA: honesty, humor, 68–78, travel, culture, outdoors, OSU, risks. NAY: immaturity, baggage, dependency, secrets, frowns, impatience. ☎5681✍

Unconventional woman, 60-ish. My 15 docs say I'm very healthy. Friends love my humor, but my sibs don't get it. I'm very attractive, but men without glasses can't quite see it. Reserved Internet profiles yielded little success, so this is it: my last hurrah. Really, I'm quite delightful. ISO man, 50–70. ☎5684✍

Chuckles, snickers, and sweet treats await romantic, fun-loving, intelligent, kind-hearted SWPM who enjoys dark-chocolate-covered strawberries and Milky Ways. ☎5686✍

Slender, fit, smart, liberal, educated, good woman ISO a very good man, 45–55. ☎5624✍

Loving, caring, attractive, 5'6"/125-lb. Asian lady, young-looking 60+, loves music, movies, travel, healthy living, cooking, metaphysics, ISO kind, honest, NS, ND SWM/SAM, 65–75, LTR. ☎5678✍

SWPF, young 50s, NS, fit, fun, mostly happy, down to earth. Likes to travel. ISO similar SWPM, 45–60. ☎5671✍

Highly educated, foreign-born American, semiretired, **SWF,** 5'2", NS, ND, in her 60s, ISO mentally and emotionally healthy good friend, gentleman, 65+. ☎5668✍

SWPF, 43, grounded, petite, blonde. Enjoys weekend getaways, films, and friends. HSV positive. Seeking kind, optimistic S/DPM. ☎5670✍

Exotic romantic flower seeks gentle gardener. Look between the weeds, discover a hybrid of creativity, a blossom of sun. **SWPF,** 49, happy, healthy humorist ISO of a variegated species for trellis climbing, meadow roaming, and love. ☎5683✍

Intelligent **SBF,** 5'7", NS, enjoys trips, companionship ISO like-minded SM, 60-plus, with integrity and laughter in his heart, for friendship leading to LTR. ☎5662✍

Attractive brunette **W,** widow, youthful 60s, NS, Italian/American with many interests, ISO relationship/companionship with SWM, age 58–70. ☎5656✍

Crunching leaves, watching snowflakes, picking tulips, picnicking by the river. **SWPF,** late 50s, ISO SWPM to share delights of the seasons and more. ☎5648✍

Pretty nature lover, 5'7", 132 lbs., long curly hair, blue eyes. Into yoga, music, health, laughing, and more. Loyal, honest, and giving. ISO the same, 46–53. ☎5630✍

Men Seeking Women

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

SWM, 40-something, musician, vegetarian, offers inner wealth, wisdom, genuine care and love to similar kindhearted, non-yuppie, ageless W for friends first. ☎5682✍

DWM, 59, 5'7", ISO good-looking woman, 120–140 lbs., SWF, 45–55, LTR, NS. Loves movies and motorcycle trips. Loves being spoiled. ☎5679✍

This nice **SWM,** 46, is looking for love. Likes animals, sports, movies, and going out to eat. Just give me a chance is all I want. ☎5597✍

Bright, bearded, boyish, monogamous **SWM,** 59, professional, fond of food, film, cats, chats, cuddling, walks, seeks SF for long-term romance, travel, fun. ☎5674✍

Time for a change? **SWPM,** 49, 5'8", fit, introspective, with no dependents, seeking fit SWPF, 35–50, who is flexible, fun, and curious. ☎5675✍

DWM, 77, 5'8", 150 lbs., handsome. Enjoys dance, travel, cards, and walks. NS, ND, emotionally and financially fit, from large family. Seeks LTR. ☎5665✍

21 things you want in a lover—the song describes me well. **SWM,** 46, healthy, happy, and a Green Builder. Hope to meet a fun, active SF to share life with. ☎5655✍

One-woman **SWM,** 45, seeks resilient, indoor/outdoor, independent/dependent, creative, fun, nontypical female. Warning: I have a son. ☎5649✍

SWM, physically fit, NS, intelligent, honest, accommodating. Enjoys books, movies, travel. ISO similar SWF, compatible, attractive, approximately 45–60. ☎2918✍

DWM, 54, 5'9", 150 lbs., no children, Ph.D. scientist/farmer in conservation/ecology. ISO woman scientist for rural life, international travel, romance. ☎4486✍

Educated, fit **DWPM** loves dancing, the outdoors, the symphony. ISO thin, elegant woman, 39–47, who is positive on relationships. ☎3031✍

I'm just a boy looking for a girl, a best friend, a creative, uninhibited lover, and a lot of laughs. 40s, 145 lbs., 5'9". ☎5667✍

Friendships

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

Women Seeking Women

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.

Men Seeking Men

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

PERSONAL CALL
(900) 226–8978
18 or older. Touch-Tone phone.
$1.95/min.

General Personals

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

ANN ARBOR SKI CLUB
You don't have to ski to be a member! The AASC is a "4 season" social and sports club for singles & couples 21/over from A2 and surrounding communities. Established organization averaging 400 members! Upcoming events: **3/1 General Meeting at Cobblestone Farm; 3/10 Night Out on the Town Whirlyball; 3/15 St. Patty's Party Meeting/Dance at Cobblestone Farm; 3/23 Night Out on the Town Dinner & Movie; 3/29 Annual Business Meeting/Elections at Cobblestone Farm; and 3/30 Night Out on the Town in Hell. CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPCOMING SPRING SPORTS.** For more information on events, including sign-up procedures, go to www.a2skiclub.org.

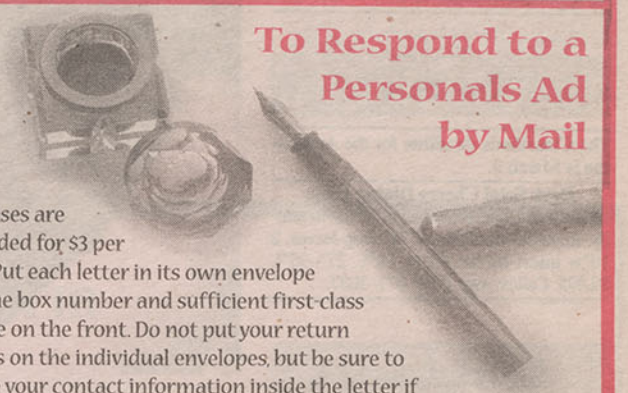
It's Easy to Respond to a Personals Ad!

To Respond by Phone, Call 1·900·226·8978

Follow the simple directions and you will be able to hear more about the people whose ads interest you, or you can browse ads by category. With one call, you can leave as many messages as you like. You may call anytime, 24 hours a day. Voice greetings are valid only for the month they appear in print.

You must be 18 or older.
Touch-Tone phones only. $1.95 a minute.

Or to Respond by Phone Using a Credit Card, Call 1·888·718·4827



To Respond to a Personals Ad by Mail

Responses are forwarded for $3 per letter. Put each letter in its own envelope with the box number and sufficient first-class postage on the front. Do not put your return address on the individual envelopes, but be sure to include your contact information inside the letter if you wish to receive a reply. Mail all response letters (in a larger envelope) to the Observer; include a check for $3 per response made payable to:
Ann Arbor Observer · 201 Catherine · Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Place your FREE Ann Arbor Observer Personals Ad Today!

Here's what you do:

Choose the most convenient method to submit your ad . . .

- ***E-MAIL:*** classifieds@arborweb.com
- ***FAX:*** (734) 769–3375
- ***ON-LINE:*** www.arborweb.com
- ***MAIL OR WALK-IN:***
  Ann Arbor Observer Personals
  201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Send us the information . . .

- Your ad copy, 39 characters per line, typed or neatly printed.
- Your name, address, and daytime phone.
- Payment (by check, money order, or Visa/MasterCard).

The first 4 lines are FREE!

For singles who use the Personals Call voice-mail system, additional lines are $7 each. Ads that indicate a preference for letters, or those under the 'General' heading, cost $7 per line for the entire ad.

Observer Personals Ads are also posted on **www.arborlist.com**—*totally free classifieds* and on **www.arborweb.com**
Please call with any questions or comments:
(734) 769–3175

We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

Keep in touch with the town!

Every Friday at 8:35 a.m. on WAAM 1600AM, listen for the latest events reviews from WAAM's Lucy Ann Lance and the Ann Arbor Observer's Amy Retherford. Find out what's going on around your town!

Brought to you by:

Talk Radio 1600 WAAM

Ann Arbor Observer

Classifieds

Employment

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Ann Arbor Observer

Guide Researcher

Conscientious, diligent, resourceful people with excellent English skills and journalistic savvy needed for full-time temporary work at the Ann Arbor Observer as City Guide and Community Guide researchers. Must be available either May through July or June through August.

The job requires tremendous attention to detail, uncanny ability to track down information, suitable people skills, good writing skills, and a penchant for accuracy and thoroughness. Send resume and cover letter to: Michael Betzold, Deputy Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. No email applications or phone calls, please. Deadline for applications is March 9.

For Sale

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Dark Solid Cherry Dining Table
Thumbnail edge. Turned legs. 40 yrs. in family. Beautiful condition. 2 24" drop-leaves, 2 10"w insert-leaves. 42"w, 28"h, 27"–95"l. $2,495. Call/lv. msg. (734) 677–3087.

Entertainment

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

TERRABELLA TRIO
Elegant music featuring flute, violin, and cello. Call (734) 996–0303.

★ CLASSICAL HARP MUSIC ★
Live harp music for any occasion.
Deborah Gabrion, (734) 417–6969.

Classical/Flamenco Guitar—Romantic, energetic, professional. (734) 975–0678.

INTRADA
Professional woodwind quintet for weddings, receptions, parties, etc. Classical to popular music. (734) 994–5457.

BEST in Classical and Jazz Piano
TAD WEED is available for your special events. Solo, duo, or trio. (734) 276–7992. TADWEED.com.

DJ for weddings and special occasions. A huge variety of music presented with TASTE and ELEGANCE. Over 25 years' experience. Reasonable rates. (734) 572–9535.

Mariah's Amazing Puppets
Kids love puppet shows! Captivating, entertaining. Call (734) 657–4652.
www.amazingpuppetshows.com

Live harp music for any occasion. Harp doctorate, U-M. Flute and harp duo also available. Laurel, 663–9292/663–0087.

Lessons & Workshops

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

ANN ARBOR AREA PIANO TEACHERS GUILD for referrals to qualified, professional piano teachers.
All levels and ages, 665–5346.

PIANO LESSONS, ALL AGES
Prof. piano teacher, U-M Music School grad. Member of Piano Teachers Guild. Convenient west-side location. Mary Ann McCulloch, (734) 769–7646. Email mcpianolady@aol.com.

LEARN ARABIC
Elementary through college. (734) 623–2061.

Classical guitar lessons. Former adjunct professor at U-M. Matthew Mischakoff. (734) 429–3303.

VOICE • PIANO
All Ages • All Levels Instruction
Gini Robison, (734) 487–2691.

Flute Lessons: all levels. Former college instructor. (734) 429–1389.

★ MOSAIC CLASSES ★ Art studio environment, beginners and advanced. Gift certificates. Mosaic Sphere Studio, (734) 769–8478, classes@mosaicsphere.com, www.mosaicsphere.com.

Cello lessons offered for adults and children by exp'd. prof. teacher and cellist with master's in cello performance. Emily: epkies@aol.com, (734) 332–0868.

PIANO LESSONS—Prof. musician on west side. U-M School of Music grad degree. Reasonable fee and flexible arrangements. Marian Patin, 761–7384.

You can sing!
Holistic voice lessons. Strengthen voice, gain confidence. All levels and styles welcome. Jesse Richards, N.A.T.S.
(734) 995–2972

Meditation: free introductory series offered by the Sri Chinmoy Centre. (734) 994–7114.

SPANISH FOR TRAVEL—Useful and fun! Focus: Mexico and Central America. **First class free,** then $10 per class. 8 weeks. Ann Arbor/Brighton. Time/locations TBA. Call Rosalie, (734) 709–0486. Email: rhwright46@yahoo.com.

PIANO LESSONS. Accompaniment. Vocal coaching. Music theory! It's all good. B.Mus. U-M, Kathe Johnson, 995–1205.

Join ESL chat group with former ESL teacher. Donations only cost. 665–9670.

Harmony Yoga—west side Ann Arbor, offers yoga classes in the Iyengar tradition. First class free. HarmonyYogaAnnArbor.com, (734) 222–9088.

REIKI classes through Master level. **FENG SHUI** classes to certification. Call June Bedwell, (734) 668–7778.

Yoga Teacher Certification
200-, 300-, and 500-hour RTY programs
www.YogaAndMeditation.com, 665–7801

Miscellaneous

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Climate Control Indoor Storage
490 S. Maple, Ann Arbor. Next to Kroger. 662–5262. www.ccindoorstorage.com.

The **Sunday Artisan Market** is open to all artists, at every level. Our goal is to offer a prime location to artisans interested in selling their original works. Market opens in April. Join now, or get information at:
www.artisanmarket.org

I SPY CONTEST
Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 139? If you can, you could win a copy of Jonathan Marwil's *A History of Ann Arbor.* One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, March 9. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769–4950; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number and put Fake Ad or I Spy in the subject line).

Services

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

COMPUTER SUPPORT
Setup & support, home & small business. Call Tom, (734) 662–3537 or 929–0875.

Accurate Psychic/Channel/Medium: Personal and phone readings. Parties, events, gift certificates. Call Nanci Rose Gerler, Crystal Clear Expressions, (734) 996–8799.

★ Construction Debris—Recycled ★
Roofing, lumber, carpeting, and misc.
TRC HAULING, 665–6895

Freelance editor/writer available for manuscript editing, proofreading, research, writing projects, web content development. Joel Seguine, seguinecom@ameritech.net, (734) 730–3410.

Wedding Invitations/Announcements
Anniversaries • Graduations
Bat/Bar Mitzvahs
Family celebrations • Birth announcements
Georgetown Gifts, 971–1068. 4-day service.
www.georgetowngifts.com

Editing, proofing, writing projects. Tech writing degree. Randolph, 480–1464.

bestnannyref.com
Childcare finders. Reasonable rates. See website or call (734) 480–2258.

ART AND ANTIQUE APPRAISALS
Insurance and estate tax valuations on your personal property by qualified appraiser. Please call: Jan Hack, (734) 663–5310.

Business Services

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Rose's Good Company
Specializing in providing human services—from soup to nuts! NEED a service and don't know how to get it? Call Rose Martin today at Rose's Good Company, (734) 604–5394.

Sale Travel Stores
WHY OPEN A TRAVEL STORE?
Call (405) 244–4085.
Then go to
www.dalesworldvacations.org

Health

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Tired of dry, cracking skin caused by chlorine and chemicals in our water? Stop applying the lotion. Buy a whole house water treatment system. $1,800 for most installations. Drinking water systems $125–$295. Municipal water only. Call Rob (734) 368–0114. Robert@HelpMeCLE.com. Since 1995.

Voted Best Massage in Ann Arbor. Open 7 days/wk. **Relax Station.** (734) 623–1951.

Free sample of new energy drink while supplies last. Call (734) 649–8322, M–F, 5 p.m.–8 p.m.

Affordable Massage for Every Body: Deep tissue, sports, pregnancy, injury rehab, on-site/event. Nationally certified, 12 years' exp. Clinic on west side. Open 6 days. Call **Carolann@Relax&Renew.** (734) 368–2138.

Supportive psychotherapy for people of all ages. Licensed social worker and substance abuse counselor accepts Blue Cross and private pay arrangements. (734) 255–3842. Rachel M. Webster, LMSW.

★ Healthy Lifestyles ★
(734) 973–7000. HLADMEN@cs.com
Career/Life Coaching
Coaching/Therapist Supervision
Counseling for Relationship Issues
Adjustment/Racial Issues
Drunk Driving/DLAD

Free 3-day sample of effective weight loss diet pill while supplies last. Call (734) 649–8322. M–F, 5 p.m.–8 p.m.

REIKI treatments. Quiet Ann Arbor studio. Deep relaxation. Call June Bedwell, (734) 668–7778.

HEALING HANDS MASSAGE
Professional, comfortable, confidential. Come experience relief. 8 a.m.–8 p.m. Phone Lola, (734) 678–2529. Will return messages.

SPRING YOGA RETREAT
In Ganges, MI. Mar. 23–25 and May 18–20
www.YogaAndMeditation.com, 665–7801

Home

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Professional Premium Handyman Plus Is something broken or not working right? Does it bother you? Caring, patient, personalized service. Licensed & insured. Degreed engineer. Since 1995, 95,000 repairs/improvements made. Call Rob, 368–0114. Robert@HelpMeCLE.com.

★ Household Debris—Recycled ★
Appliances, furniture, brush, and misc.
TRC HAULING, 665–6895

CRITTER CARE
Pet Care When You Can't Be There
Kristina Taylor
(734) 747–8259

★★ HOME REPAIRS ★★
Carpentry and handyman services
(734) 995–0715

HOUSESITTER. Pets and plants, too. Short- and long-term. (734) 646–0803.

Retired man Jim. Light hauling, yard work, and junk removal. 330–1670.

★ A2 Pet Solutions ★ Professional pet sitting, dog walking, dog park trips. Compassionate. Insured. www.a2pet.com. 678–4771.

Burlygirl Residential Cleaning
Reliable, good service with reasonable rates. Fully bonded and insured.
(734) 383–2298

★★ PAINTING ★★
Neighborhood Painters
Local Company
Interior and Exterior
Deck power washing, staining
Call (734) 276–7464

★ RESIDENTIAL PAINTING ★
Interior & Exterior—35 years' experience
(734) 995–0715

PAINTER FROM THE U.P.
Ten years' experience in Ann Arbor. Good references. Also, basement wall repair. Call Brian (734) 651–2440.

★★★ Housecleaning ★★★
Experienced, lots of references. Great equipment! Call for appointments. Laura, (248) 343–4760.

★★ DRYWALL REPAIRS ★★
Any size job $40/hour
(734) 995–0715

★ PLASTER RESTORATION ★
Over 35 years' experience in Ann Arbor
(734) 995–0715

Natural organic lawn maintenance and mowing. Spring cleanups, gutter cleaning. Seasonal or vacation. Sign up now for your pre-emergent weed control and fertilizations. (734) 320–1824.

Classifieds

GARDENS BY ZOE
Design. Plant. Maintenance.
(734) 480–2258

Beautiful custom-made slipcovers
Many more fabrics available. 913–8131.
www.michigansmom.com

Housecleaning with the professional touch. Great references. 677–4233.

NEED GARDEN IDEAS? I do consultations, designs, cleanups, and show you how. (734) 761–5615, plantscape_design@yahoo.com.

Kathy's Housecleaning. Experienced. Careful, reliable work. Call 662–2014.

We offer lawn care, spring cleanup, gutter cleaning, and hauling services. (734) 975–8861.

★ **Housecleaning Available** ★
Dependable, experienced, reasonable rates. References. Call Barbara.
★ ★ **(734) 241–8582** ★ ★

FENG SHUI consultations, home or business. Formal training. Achieve balance. Call June Bedwell, (734) 668–7778.

Dependable, trustworthy person to do your housecleaning. (734) 461–9569.

★ **METICULOUS CLEANING** ★
and organizing. Lisa, (734) 277–7355.

Photography

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

www.beringphotography.com
glenn bering 734.485.5445

★ **WEDDINGS/BAR MITZVAHS** ★
Experienced professional; personal service and reasonable rates. You own and keep the negatives! For information:
Jim Kruz, (313) 806–6855.

★ **WEDDINGS** ★ **PORTRAITS** ★
More than 10 years
of photography experience.
www.cibelenewman.com
(734) 417–8946

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY
Creative images of your special event by a friendly craftsman with over 30 years of professional experience. **Lance Burghardt, (734) 769-6756.**

Weddings/Bar Mitzvahs/Portraits
Artistic portraiture and creative coverage of events. Dorothy Gotlib Photography, 223–7069, **www.dorothygotlib.com.**

★ **GORGEOUS PORTRAITS** ★
Babies, kids, graduates, professionals.
In my studio, outdoors, at your home.
www.myraklarman.com
(734) 330–1251

Wanted

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Seeking Spanish English/English Spanish conversational partner. 662–8109.

A gift beyond measure. Be an egg donor. Earn $6,000! Must be 20–28 years of age, healthy, and a nonsmoker. Please call:
Alternative Reproductive Resources
at (248) 723–9979 or
www.arr1.com for info

Real Estate

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

For Sale by Owner

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Homes for Sale

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Livingston Co. & Fenton—Beautiful homes and condos. Affordable pricing/lower taxes. 30 min. north of Ann Arbor. Visit my website: borntosellhomes.com. Marcia Dicks, RE/MAX Platinum. Agent on call: (810) 730–3034.

Westside Home for Sale
366 Pinewood (off Dexter–Ann Arbor Rd.)
1.5 lots with fenced backyard,
2 bedrooms, half-finished basement.
New windows and roof. Call to
schedule a visit.
(734) 997–9629

SALINE—This classic older home in town is a rare find. Well-maintained and updated 4-bedroom home across from Wilderness Park. $299,000. Call Jim Levleit, (734) 429–5262, or Marjorie Uren, (734) 635–1881. Century 21 Brookshire.

Condos for Sale

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Land for Sale

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

40 ACRES. Meadows, woods, rolling borders, river & lake wildlife. 10 min. N of Chelsea. Private yet accessible. (734) 662–0736.

For Rent

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Bellanina Guest House—Top floor, private entrance, 4-room suite. Across from Kerrytown. King bed, full bath, cable, DSL, kitchenette. Includes parking. $155/night, $875/wk. www.bellanina.com, (734) 476–0101.

BURNS PARK—Superb 2-bedroom apt., dining room, sunporch, fireplace, $1,150. 665–0090.

AA Hills home on private, park-like grounds. Bike to U-M or hospital. Four-bedroom suites, 3½ baths. $1,850 + util. Furn. $2,250. (734) 994–4300.

Beautiful rural home has a room to rent An artist's retreat. Rent negotiable. Lots of acreage. (734) 665–6044.

Vacation Rental

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Vacation Property

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Commercial Property

The **Classifieds deadline** for the April issue is March 9.

Observer Classifieds Form

APRIL DEADLINE
MARCH 9

Mail, fax, or bring form to: Ann Arbor Observer Classifieds, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
Fax: (734) 769-3375, E-mail: classifieds@arborweb.com
Please include payment by check, cash, Visa, or Mastercard.

REACH OVER
128,000 READERS

ANN ARBOR OBSERVER CLASSIFIEDS—

RUN AD IN:

JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.
SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.

NUMBER OF LINES _____
X $7.00 PER LINE _____
X # OF MONTHS _____
TOTAL $ _____

CHECK APPROPRIATE CLASSIFIEDS CATEGORY

- ❑ EMPLOYMENT
- ❑ ENTERTAINMENT
- ❑ LESSONS & WORKSHOPS
- ❑ FOR SALE
- ❑ SERVICES—BUSINESS
- ❑ SERVICES—HEALTH
- ❑ SERVICES—HOME
- ❑ SERVICES—PHOTOGRAPHY
- ❑ SERVICES—GENERAL
- ❑ WANTED
- ❑ GENERAL PERSONALS
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR RENT
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR SALE BY OWNER
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR SALE—HOMES
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR SALE—CONDOS
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR SALE—LAND
- ❑ REAL ESTATE FOR SALE—COMMERCIAL
- ❑ VACATION RENTALS
- ❑ REAL ESTATE WANTED

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____
EMAIL _____

❑ CHARGE MY VISA ❑ CHARGE MY MASTERCARD ❑ CHECK ENCLOSED
ACCOUNT NUMBER _____
EXPIRATION DATE _____
SIGNATURE _____

RATES & GUIDELINES

- $7.00 per line, or fraction of a line, per insertion. 2 line minimum.
- Each letter, punctuation mark, and word space counts as a box. Capital letters use two boxes.
- Average 39 characters per line.
- Use only standard abbreviations.
- Move word to the next line if it does not fit completely at the end of a line.
- If bold/centered text is desired, please indicate.
- Ads will run in the next open issue.

We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 769-3175, Fax (734) 769-3375

For Office Use Only
Log date: _____

Services

Business / Health & Wellness

Computer Support Services

MondoDyne
MACINTOSH COMPUTER SUPPORT SERVICES
Set-up • Maintenance • Training
Home – Office – Wireless Installation – Digital Photography
Mike Gould, In Charge
mgould@mondodyne.com 734 904 0659

ANN ARBOR
Computer Home Service
PC or Mac • Home & Office • Repair • Networking
Virus/Spyware Removal • Setup & Configuration
Instruction • Hardware & Software Consultation
734-417-7163 • gerbre@gmail.com
www.a2chs.com

PC Crash Control
on-site computer repair, setup, upgrades, training & more at below carry-in prices
slow PC? $30 system checkup & optimization
backup solutions: don't lose your family photos!
in your home or office - eve/weekend - next day
$30 per half hour of labor - 16 years experience
(734) 418-3228 call for more info

Window Treatments & Cleaning

Esquire
INTERIORS
Window Coverings
Drapery Cleaning
www.esquireinteriors.com
734-663-7011

Psychotherapy & Mental Health

Solutions that will make a difference.
Make tomorrow better.
Diane Agresta, PsyD
Licensed Clinical Psychologist
321 S. Main, Ann Arbor (734)665-9890
Families Children Teens Adults

Health & Wellness

Graphic Design

DAVID ZINN
Illustration & Design
"Bright ideas from a slightly bent mind" -*A² News*
(734) 769-1890 e-mail: d-zinn@sbcglobal.net

Health & Wellness

Khita whyatt's
Certified Rolfer
Senior Pilates Practitioner
coregracepilates
734.913.9046
211 S. Fourth Ave., Suite 1B
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
www.coregracepilates.com

INNER WISDOM
Kate Mehuron, Ph.D.
Philosophical Counselor
(734) 945-8841
www.philosophypractice.com
kmehuron@yahoo.com

Peaceful Dragon School
of Tai Chi Ch'uan & Chi Kung
Stress Reduction • Harmony of Energy
734.741.0695
Master Wasentha Young
1945 Pauline Blvd.
Ann Arbor
www.peacefuldragonschool.com

Personal Training

ETERNAL FITNESS
In-Home Personal Training
Shaun M. Davis – *Over 15 years of training experience*
Body Transformation • Nutritional Guidance
Body Composition Analysis
Cell: 734.368.2768 • EternalFitness@msn.com

Health & Wellness / Home & Commercial

Personal Training

Healthy Lifestyles Begin At Home
Michael W. Karr, M.S.
Medical Fitness Specialist
Bridging the gap between physical rehabilitation and personal fitness.
Mike's
Full House Fitness
(734)761-8186

Building & Remodeling

EASTHOPE
Home Improvement Services, LLC
Remodeling
Licensed & Insured 734.973.2122

Repairs and Maintenance
Painting Interior/Exterior
Paul Bauer
Licensed & Insured
Bauer's Home Improvement, LLC
Handyman Services
734.717.2542
Custom Decks
Deck Powerwashing and Sealing
Gutter Guards
Free Estimates
Small Jobs Welcome
Email: plbauer215@yahoo.com

A & A FLOORING
Specializing in flooring and small remodeling
Tired of paying high Ann Arbor pricing for low grade work?
Reasonable Pricing
Free Estimates
Owner/Operators
Aaron & Amy Higgins
517-764-2443

Joe Bob's Home Improvement Company
You Name It!
Repairs • Updates • Building
Demolition • Remodeling
734-327-5949
licensed & insured • joe@joebaublis.com

David Klein Construction, Inc.
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Residential Remodeling & Additions

Home & Commercial

Building & Remodeling continued

NEERING
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Complete Home Services
Specializing in
Interior & Exterior Carpentry
• Additions
• Repair work
• Renovation
30 Years' Experience
Andy Neering 734.216.1916
Licensed & Insured

Serving you for over 20 years.
Licensed (734) 973-3050 Insured
Additions
Basements • Porches • Decks
Egress Windows • Garages
Carports • Kitchens • Baths
Any Remodeling
AA Improvements Services

Painting

Chapman Custom Painting
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On the Cover: Luxurious two-bedroom, two-bath ranch condo in Rivergrove Village features a gourmet kitchen with granite countertops and oak floor, skylit great room wired for home theater, library with French doors and gas fireplace, custom finishes, and a fully finished, view-out basement. Other extras include deck, first-floor laundry, and insulated two-car garage. Rivergrove Village ranch and townhome units start at $159,900. Tom Moore, BRG Custom Homes. (734) 669-2959.

Cover photo by J. Adrian Wylie

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Gregory 1611 Morton. Stunning Burns Park home - 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, new kitchen and baths, updated throughout. Screened porch, 2-car garage. Wonderful, lush backyard. $615,000. #2702264

Dexter 3802 Preserve. Immaculate, stunning, custom 6 bedroom, 4.5 bath home with great views of lake and valley. 4,670 sq. ft. + screened porch, cherry kitchen with Wolf appliances, finished walkout. $769,000. #2702210

Ann Arbor 1161 Gene Dr. Cozy, stylish, 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch under construction in Creekside Court. Front porch, cathedral ceiling in living room, many windows, spacious kitchen. Walk to town. $299,900. #2700951

Dexter 8089 Trail Ridge. Brand new, spectacular Victorian nestled in woods. Panoramic views, 3,400 sq. ft. + walkout lower level. First floor master, 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3-season porch. $639,900. #2701074

Dexter 7300 Webster Station. Incredible, striking Arts & Crafts. 6,200 sq. ft. home on 10 wooded acre estate. Minutes to Ann Arbor. 6 bedrooms, 4f/2h baths , studies, timeless quality. $1,390,000. #2700630

Ann Arbor 132 Ashley Mews. Superior downtown townhouse in Ashley Mews! Great location, premium finishes throughout. Rare 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, study, 2,800 sq. ft. 2-car garage! $565,000. #2700822

Ann Arbor 710 Watershed. Stunning contemporary home nestled in woods. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 fireplaces, screened porch. Desirable neighborhood, minutes to town. Private! $645,000. #2701208

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Ann Arbor Immaculate! Remodeled 5 bedroom, 3 bath with 2-story addition! Open plan, 2,459 sq. ft. + finished basement and attic. 2 fireplaces, granite and stainless kitchen. 2 stall garage. $699,000. Susan DeYoung 734-709-5246, 734-669-5951. #2701725

Dexter 8 acre estate for those who want privacy and quality. 6,500 sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, elevator, granite, Italian slate and cherry floors, home theatre. Pool and cabana house. $1,695,000. Pat Durston 734-260-9247, 734-669-5981. #2700940

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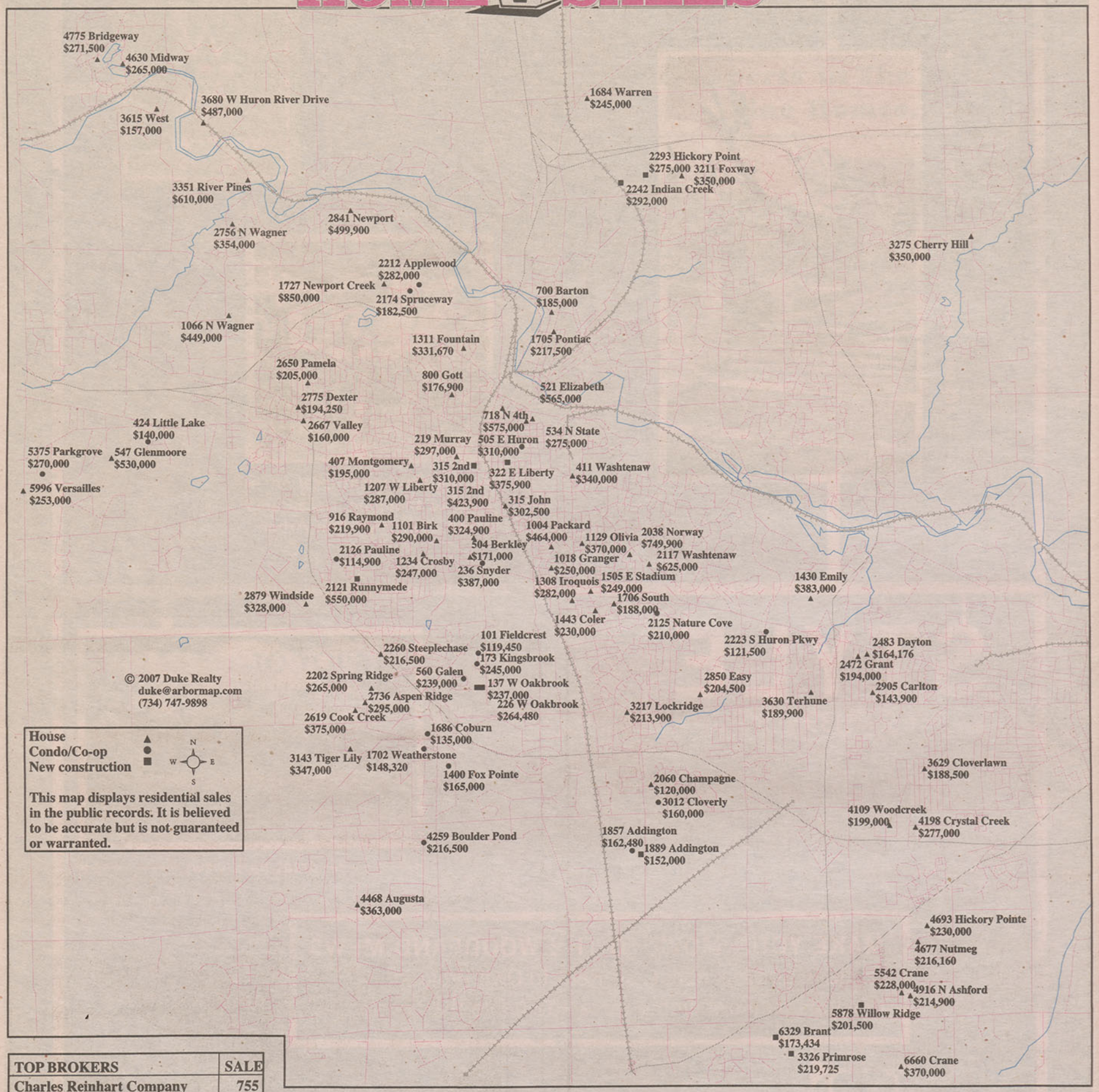
HOME SALES



TOP BROKERS	SALE
Charles Reinhart Company	755
Edward Surovell Realtors	644
Real Estate One	421
Keller Williams	276
Prudential Snyder & Company	175
Coldwell Banker Schweitzer	119
RE/MAX Platinum	96
Trillium Real Estate	39
Savarino Properties	38
Century 21 Brookshire	30
Blue Sky Realty	21
Spaly Group	20
Buyer's Agent	18

The top thirteen brokers in the Ann Arbor school district saw their collective sales tumble 7 percent in 2006 compared to 2005, according to our detailed analysis of sales of single-family homes, condominiums, and co-ops. The table at left breaks out 2006 sales by broker. It follows the industry convention of crediting a firm with a sale whenever it earns a commission. Since two brokers can earn a commission on a single sale—one for listing the property, the other for selling it—the table does not reflect the total number of properties sold. In addition, our tally includes only homes sold through the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors' Multiple Listing Service—and thus excludes properties sold by owner and most new construction.

Bucking the trend, Prudential Snyder & Company posted an increase of forty-five sales, due primarily to agents who defected from other brokers to join Snyder's camp. Business was also good for the Charles Reinhart Company, which listed or sold just as many properties in the Ann Arbor school district in 2006 as it did in 2005, and achieved nearly equivalent dollar volume.

The slump was felt most keenly at second-place Edward Surovell Realtors, which recorded 98 fewer sales; at third-place Real Estate One, which lost 115 sales; and at fourth-place Keller Williams, which dropped 87 sales.

—Kevin Duke

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NEW LISTING – BARTON HILLS AREA – New construction just minutes from Downtown Ann Arbor and U of M. This 5-bedroom, 3½-bath home on a peaceful 1.5 acre parcel the home features wonderful oversized rooms, ample hardwood floors, custom kitchen with professional grade appliances, luxury master suite. $1,100,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – Incredible 6-bedroom, 5½-bath custom-built home in one of Saline's most desired neighborhoods. The highlights include a private lot with extensive landscaping, gorgeous cherry kitchen with granite counters, two-story family room, den, luxurious master suite, and finished lower level with full kitchen and multi-use rec space. $1,095,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE - 5-bedroom, 4½-bath custom-built home rests on an acre setting just minutes to US-23. Features include heated stone flooring, dream kitchen with maple cabinets, granite, and stainless steel appliances, luxury master suite with incredible bath and two walk-in closets, bonus room, finished basement, and 4-car heated garage. WOW! $1,095,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – DEXTER SCHOOLS – Stunning 5-bedroom, 4½-bath 2006 Showcase of Homes entry in Mystic Ridge by Charlestown Building Company. This home features only the best including custom kitchen with granite and professional grade appliances, extensive Brazilian cherry floors, custom trim, two-story great room with stone fireplace, and finished walkout basement. $995,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NE ANN ARBOR – Striking 4-bedroom, 3½-bath custom-built, builder's home on a peaceful acre lot. This 3-year-old home has all the bells and whistles. Inviting brick and stone interior, two-story great room with vaulted ceiling, custom kitchen with granite and professional grade appliances, dream master suite, and finished walkout basement. $629,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MATTHAI FARM – Custom-built ranch on a peaceful acre lot is a nature lover's paradise. Enjoy private surroundings, and extensive landscaping from one of four decks. The interior is in perfect condition and has oversized great room with redwood ceiling and natural fireplace, luxurious master suite, and finished walkout basement. $619,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NICHOLS ARBORETUM AREA – This 4-bedroom, 3½-bath colonial is just a short walk to the Arb and U-M Campus. Extensive renovation makes this home a wonderful find. Features include master bedroom addition, remodeled maple kitchen, oversized family room, ample hardwood floor, and gorgeous private lot. $619,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Enjoy near perfection in this custom-built 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac in one of the area's most desired subs. Incredible lot borders trees and a stream with oversized patio and extensive landscaping. Interior is gorgeous featuring large great room with vaulted ceiling, gourmet kitchen, spacious first-floor master suite, and finished basement. $579,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – YORK PLACE - This 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home in Saline's most desired subs. Perfect inside and out, includes professional landscaping, huge backyard, gorgeous décor, maple kitchen with granite counters and oversized eating area, open family room with vaulted ceiling, and luxurious master suite with two walk-in closets and dream bath. $464,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – PLEASANT LAKE – This 3-bedroom, 2½-bath home rests on one of the most beautiful lakefront settings in Washtenaw County. Enjoy panoramic views of the lake from the this bluff-top setting. Home features many updates including maple kitchen with Corian counters, living room with stone fireplace, and large decks. $449,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – WEBSTER TOWNSHIP – This stunning 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home on a quiet country cul-de-sac is just perfect. Gorgeous lot with extensive landscaping and oversized patio. Interior is highlighted by the two-story family room, cherry kitchen, back stair, and luxurious master suite. Dexter Schools. $439,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING –LOHR LAKE VILLAGE - This very special 5-bedroom, 3½-bath home rests on a gorgeous lot overlooking the ponds, Enjoy wonderful views from the oversized deck. Interior is perfect featuring two-story great room with custom fireplace, large kitchen, den, luxurious first-floor master suite, and finished lower level. Saline Schools. $438,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP – Looking for a peaceful country retreat just minutes to I-94? Oversized ranch on almost 4 acres of wooded land. This home, featuring wonderful living areas and many extra multi-use spaces, is perfect for home office, hobbies, etc. Extensive updates including granite kitchen, luxury master bath, and wine room. $429,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE – The perfect country oasis? Rock solid 3-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built home features incredible views of nature, stream, spring-fed pond with walkways, extensive landscaping, and patio. Interior features great room with vaulted ceiling and full brick fireplace, first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $425,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SANDPIPER COVE – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 2½-bath colonial rests on a peaceful acre lot in the highly desired Saline community. Enjoy the many luxurious features including oversized maple kitchen with ample cabinets, family room with built-ins, and large master suite with dream bath. You will love it! $424,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – This well appointed 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs features wonderful updates and is in perfect, move-in condition. Features include ample hardwood floors, great room with fireplace and beautiful windows, kitchen with granite counters, luxury first-floor master suite, and significant, mature landscaping. $407,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Super sharp 4-bedroom, 2½-bath colonial on a private lot in one of the area's best neighborhoods. This home is perfect featuring large kitchen with hardwood floor and 9-ft. ceilings, open family room, spacious master suite, and in move-in condition. You will love this home! $379,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

TECUMSEH – Completely remodeled 4-bedroom, 3-bath 1800s farmhouse on 15 pastoral acres 10 minutes south of downtown Saline. Featuring heated barn perfect for car storage. Interior has best of old and new with cherry kitchen and Corian counters, hardwood floors, oversized moldings, family room, and luxury master suite. $379,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – BRIDGEFIELD ESTATES – This is one of the finest homes you will find. Custom-built home on a quiet cul-de-sac backing to trees. Interior is upgraded in everyway including gourmet kitchen with maple cabinets, granite counters, and stainless steel professional grade appliances, two-story great room, and luxury master suite with sitting room. $379,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ANN ARBOR HILLS – This 4-bedroom, 2½-bath ranch on a spacious lot is a prime home for extensive remodeling or tear down. Property features rolling land and mature trees. Home is a sprawling 50's ranch with three fireplaces, guest suite, and covered patio area. $369,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SALINE – This 4-bedroom, 2½-bath, 2-story with over 2,850 sq. ft. represents one of the best buys on the market. Beautiful inside and out with extensive landscaping, large deck, and view of protected farmland. Interior features two-story foyer, den, open kitchen and family room, master suite with walk-in closet, and oversized bedrooms. $307,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MILAN – This is one of the nicest homes you will find. Completely remodeled 4-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on a spacious acre lot in York Township. The list is long: cherry kitchen, remodeled baths, perfect décor, finished walkout basement, huge deck and patio. WOW! $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SAGINAW HILLS – Drastically reduced for quick sale, an incredible opportunity and value to the buyer. Striking 3-bedroom, 2½-bath home on a gorgeous 2.8 acre lot in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Oversized lot just minutes to downtown Ann Arbor. Unique design perfect for those with a little flair. $289,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – HOMETOWNE VILLAGE – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 2½-bath home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs is in perfect move-in condition. Gorgeous setting, very pretty pond view. Interior is dramatic with 10-ft. first-floor ceilings, large kitchen, great room with built-in entertainment center, luxury master suite, and walkout basement. $279,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

KING SCHOOL AREA – This 5-bedroom, 3½-bath custom-built home represents the most classic example of true contemporary architecture and décor available in Ann Arbor. Gorgeous acre property in the heart of one of the area's most desired locations. The proportions are massive throughout with top-quality finishes everywhere. $1,295,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – ANN ARBOR HILLS – Dramatic 4-bedroom, 3-bath, and 2 half-bath new construction. Complete and ready to go, this home is loaded with only the best in finish and workmanship. Highlights include cherry kitchen with granite and top-end appliances, two-story great room, luxury first-floor master suite, and den with cherry built-ins. $1,200,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – ANN ARBOR HILLS – Breathtaking new construction in the heart of one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. This home is incredible, loaded with quality features and amenities. Custom kitchen with vaulted ceiling, fireplace, granite, and professional grade appliances, two-story great room, luxury first-floor master suite and more. $1,150,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – ANN ARBOR HILLS – Stunning 4-bedroom, 5-bath home under construction walking distance to U of M Campus and Hospitals. Dramatic Arts and Crafts inspired home. Oversized dream kitchen with cherry cabinets, granite, and professional grade appliances, family room with vaulted ceiling, dream master suite, and 3-floor elevator. $1,140,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

POLO FIELDS – This is one of the finest homes you will ever see! Top-quality, custom-built home on a quiet cul-de-sac with panoramic golf course views. Interior is special featuring ample hardwood floors, cherry kitchen with granite counters, oversized first-floor master suite, two-story living room, and finished walkout basement with theater. Wow! $799,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BURNS PARK – Complete renovation inside and out awaits you at this striking 5-bedroom, 3-bath home. Extensive upgrades throughout including custom maple kitchen with granite counters, slate floors in many rooms, luxury master suite with vaulted ceiling and modern bath, and great flex-use third floor. $799,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – STONEBRIDGE – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 4½-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot overlooking the golf course is one of the finest homes you will find. Exceptional in every way this well loved home features a breathtaking two-story great room, custom cherry kitchen with granite counters, luxury master suite with dream bath and closet, and finished lower level with wet bar. You will be impressed. $729,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home features showcase-like finishes throughout. Wonderful floor plan includes two-story living room, den with oak paneled walls, cherry kitchen with marvelous eating area, family room with site-built cabinets, and first-floor master suite with marble bath. WOW! $679,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – YORK PLACE – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 3½-bath colonial on a peaceful acre lot backing to trees features 8-car garage space. All the bells and whistles are here including 2-story family room, maple kitchen with granite counters, ample hardwood floor, den, and dream master suite with oversized bath and closet. You will love it! $559,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Striking 4-bedroom, 3½-bath builder's model home now available in Legacy Heights. This 2005 Showcase of Homes entry is loaded with custom finishes and features. Cherry kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances, large family room, den with built-ins, oversized master suite, and designer décor throughout. $529,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Stunning 4-bedroom, 4½-bath builder's model home in Huntington Woods. This home is incredible featuring extensive upgrades, professional decorating, and more. Amenities include gorgeous crown moldings, cherry kitchen, granite counters, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $529,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YORK MEADOWS – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home is just perfect. Incredible setting with oversized yard, extensive landscaping, and large patio. Interior is out of a magazine. Cherry kitchen with granite counter tops, two-story family room with wall of glass to backyard, and luxurious master suite. You will love it. $499,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP – Stately, new 4-bedroom, 4-bath colonial on a private 6-acre parcel just minutes to Ann Arbor, St. Joe's, and freeways. This home is loaded with quality features including gourmet kitchen with maple cabinets, ample hardwood floors, family room with vaulted ceiling, and luxury master suite. $434,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – ANN ARBOR – Enjoy stunning Huron River views from this completely remodeled 3-bedroom, 2-bath cape cod. Perched high above the river this home features a gorgeous living room, remodeled kitchen, ample hardwood floor, and luxury master suite with wall of glass to the Huron River. You will love it! $434,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – This 4-bedroom, 4½-bath Bayberry home in the Arboretum is an incredible value. Many quality features and amenities including cherry kitchen with Corian counters, oversized two-story great room, luxury first-floor master suite, and finished basement with viewout windows. $429,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LAKE FOREST – This 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath former builder's model home is just perfect! Incredible features inside and out including extensive mature landscaping, large deck, and patio. Interior is highlighted by ample hardwood flooring, maple kitchen with granite counters, two-story family room, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. $429,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – YORK PLACE – This 4-bedroom, 2½-bath custom-built home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot is loaded with custom features and amenities. Extensive landscaping, paver sidewalk, and oversized deck with built-in hot tub highlight the exterior. Cherry kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances, two-story great room, and luxury master suite. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MANCHESTER – Are you looking for the perfect country retreat? This is it. Enjoy the rolling vistas from the rock-solid, all-brick ranch on 10 pastoral acres just outside of town. This home has the perfect set-up with two pole barns, fenced horse pasture, and in-ground pool. Interior is sharp with great room and finished walkout basement. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – BRIARHILL – Gorgeous home on a peaceful wooded lot with extreme privacy. Wonderful features and updates throughout including granite kitchen counter tops, gorgeous family room with vaulted ceiling, study loft with oak built-ins, large master suite, and finished basement with oak wet bar and great flex-use rec space. $389,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – EAST HORIZONS – Perfectly maintained 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home on a quiet acre lot in one of the area's most desired subs. Incredible value inside and out with extensive landscaping, brick paver patio, neutral décor, family room with fireplace, den, very nice master suite, and finished basement with great multi-use rec space has daylight windows. $388,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LAKE FOREST HIGHLANDS – This custom-built 3-bedroom, 2 ½-bath home rests on one of the best lots to be found. Enjoy the quiet cul-de-sac location with expansive backyard, deck, patio, and extensive landscaping. Interior is move-in perfect featuring great room with vaulted ceiling, oversized kitchen with hardwood floor, luxury master suite, and finished basement. $349,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – TRAVIS POINTE – This completely remodeled 2-bedroom, 2½-bath condo is just perfect with a wonderful contemporary flair. Almost everything is updated including custom kitchen with granite, white cabinets, and professional grade appliances, marble entry, hardwood floors, and gorgeous master suite. $339,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – HICKORY POINTE – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 3½-bath colonial is loaded with quality features and amenities Features include ample hardwood floors, spacious formal dining room and living room, large kitchen with white cabinets and island, spacious family room, luxury master suite, and finished basement with view out windows. $329,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – SILO RIDGE – Enjoy quiet, quality living from this perfectly maintained 3-bedroom, 2 ½-bath colonial on a peaceful one acre cul-de-sac lot. This home is wonderful and features extensive landscaping, large deck, open family room with bookcases, spacious formal rooms, first-floor study, and nice master suite. Saline Schools. $314,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – MAPLE CREEK – This very sharp 3-bedroom, 2½-bath colonial in Pittsfield Twp. sits on a gorgeous almost acre lot. Interior spaces feature cherry kitchen with oak hardwood floor, open family room with fireplace and vaulted ceiling, and nice master suite with walk-in closet. $279,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Perfect 4-unit income property in downtown Saline. Are you looking to get into rental property? This is the perfect property. Three one-bedroom apartments and an efficiency. All separate utilities, lots of updates, and stable rental history. $259,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – LINCOLN SCHOOLS – This 4-bedroom, 2½-bath, two-story is one of the only true custom-built homes in Greene Farms. Enjoy wonderful features and amenities throughout including extensive landscaping, oversized deck, tasteful décor, kitchen with maple cabinets, and luxury master suite with oversized walk-in closet. Stunning! $239,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GRASS LAKE – This brand new 3-bedroom, 3-bath ranch on a peaceful 2-acre parcel is just wonderful. This open floor plan features a large kitchen with maple cabinets and hardwood floors, large great room, luxury master suite, and finished basement. $239,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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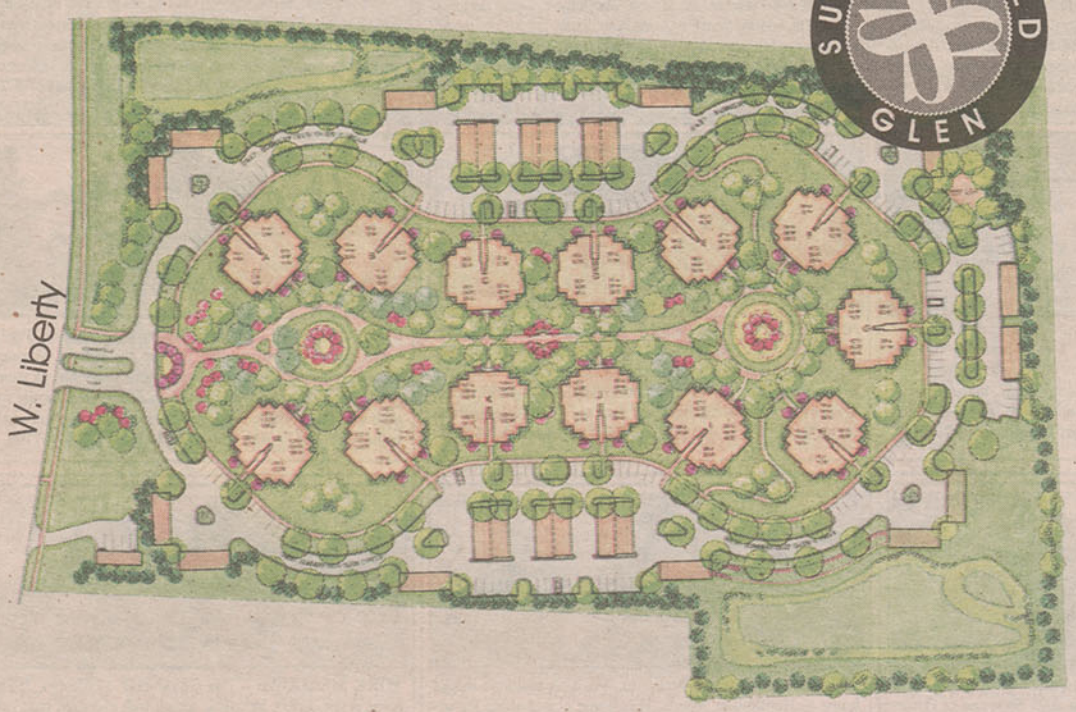

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NEW LISTING – ANN ARBOR – This rock-solid 3-bedroom, 2-bath all-brick ranch on a peaceful oversized lot just minutes to US-23 and Arborland. Wonderful condition with spacious living room, nice kitchen, formal dining, partially finished basement, and heated garage. Bonus 24' x 36' outbuilding is perfect for car enthusiasts, boat, or RV storage. $234,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – DEXTER – Great 3-bedroom, 2-bath, two-story on a peaceful 1.4 acre lot adjacent to Peach Mountain and Stinchfield Woods. Enjoy private walking access to one of the areas most beautiful pieces of land. Home has nice features including oversized 2½-car garage, screened porch, and partially finished basement. $225,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – ANN ARBOR – This is the perfect 3-bedroom starter ranch on the west side of town. Everything is updated in this super sharp home. Extensive hardwood floors, remodeled master suite and kitchen, finished basement, 2½-car garage, and fenced backyard. $219,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – BRENTWOOD SQUARE – This dramatic 2-bedroom, 2-bath end unit condo is within walking distance to shopping, Starbucks, and Gallop Park. Interior features vaulted ceilings, granite kitchen, wonderful décor, hardwood floors, main level den, and upgraded bath. $214,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING – GRASS LAKE – This 3-bedroom, 1½-bath 1800s farmhouse rests on a wooded acre just minutes to I-94 and Grass Lake. Home does need some work but has some updates completed and tons of charm and potential. Large living room with hardwood floors, stone fireplace, and original trim, remodeled kitchen, and 2½-car garage. $199,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

YPSILANTI – Super sharp 3-bedroom, 1½-bath brick colonial, walking distance to EMU. This home is as cute as it gets and in move-in condition. Features include spacious living room with hardwood floors, coved ceiling and fireplace, formal dining room, large sun room, spacious bedrooms, and private backyard. $174,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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Linda Tenza, 734-276-0200
lindatenza@comcast.net

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Anita Merritt, 734-223-6253
CeNeMa@aol.com

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gailsinelli@hotmail.com

Ahh... The Good Life! Classic Queen Anne Victorian in North Burns Park. High ceilings grace living and dining rooms. Gorgeous kitchen with granite countertops and Eurocave wine cooler. Five bedrooms, 3.5 baths. $799,000. #2702148

Marlena Studer, 734-216-4443
Marlena_studer@hotmail.com

Call It Home Today! — A superior starter home in Geddes Ridge sub. Enjoy all seasons in this 3-bedroom home featuring fireplace, multi-tier deck with enclosed patio, and a finished basement with bar. $166,900. #2614838.

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www.MMazur.com

Independence in Ann Arbor – is exactly what you'll get with this fine 2-bedroom, 1-bath condo in Independence Condominiums. Central Ann Arbor location close to U of M and right on the bus lines. Affordably priced at $119,700. #2702086.

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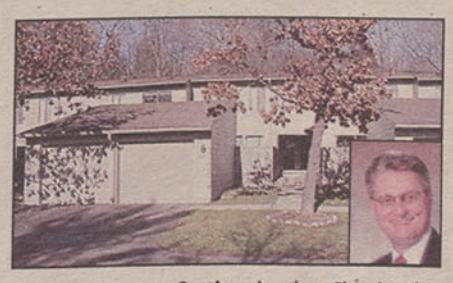
www.MMazur.com



Serene Country Setting in the City in this two-bedroom courtyard model co-op. Move-in ready with a remodeled kitchen and bathroom too. Great location on bus line near U of M and US 23. $114,900. #2701248.

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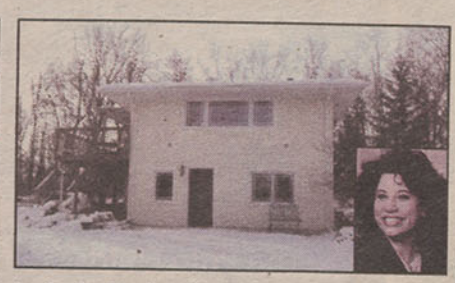

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Back Page

i spy

by Sally Bjork

This 1925 building shares both architect and street with the U-M's grad school.

To enter this month's I Spy contest, use the clue above and photo at right to find the spot shown, and send your entry to the address at the bottom of the page.

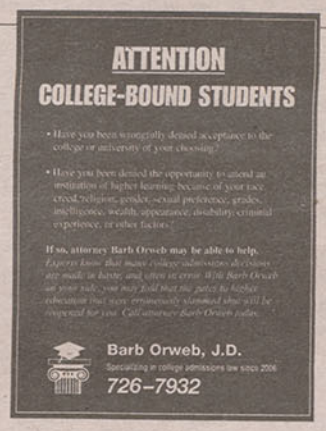
The "heron's perch is the Gallup Park Canoe Livery (and Coffee Shop)," wrote Ginny Archer, one of six Ann Arborites to correctly identify February's I Spy. *The Great Blue Heron Weathervane*, made and donated by William J. Mundus in 1984, adorns the Gallup Park livery building, designed by local architect David Osler.

Terri Klein Gordinier guessed correctly that the 147 places mentioned in February's clue are all city parks. Gallup's facilities were revamped in the past few years; there's a new cafe in the community room where walkers can stop in for a cup of Zingerman's coffee. The livery is closed during the winter, but come April, the canoes will be ready and the java brewing again.

Gordinier won our random drawing. She'll receive a copy of *A History of Ann Arbor*, by Jonathan L. Marwil.

fake ad

by Jay Forstner



Last month's Fake Ad for attorney Barb Orweb (p. 102) offered assistance for college-bound students who may be wrongly (or rightly, for that matter) denied acceptance to the college of their choice. It elicited 125 correct entries—and one incorrect one. The winner of our random drawing was Roy Esaki of Ann Arbor, who is taking his gift certificate to Godaiko Classic Japanese Cuisine.

"Cute fake ad," wrote Frank Winterroth. "In today's competitive environment for college admissions, I suppose someone like 'Barb Orweb' would be extremely useful for some students. Or they could perhaps watch a movie like *Accepted*—where a young man who is rejected by all the schools he applies to simply 'invents' his own university and sends himself a fake acceptance letter—and emulate his idea (I certainly do not condone this latter behavior!)."

Or frustrated students could do what the Fake Ad Czar's friend did when he was finishing college and desperately wanted to attend Harvard Business School. After receiving his rejection letter, he sent the school an exuberant, grateful note thanking them for accepting him and declaring how excited he was about starting school in the fall. Except that it didn't work. And he's now a house painter. So they might not want to try that after all.

To enter, identify the March Fake Ad by name and page number, and let us know at the address below. The name of the Observer's website, *arborweb*, always appears in the Fake Ad: in February it was hidden within the name of Barb Orweb, J.D. The winner of our random drawing will receive a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue.

Send separate entries to Fake Ad or I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. *Fax:* (734) 769–4950. *Email:* backpage@aaobserver.com. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received in the Observer office by noon on Friday, March 9, will be eligible for the March drawings.

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Events at a Glance

A capsule guide to selected major events in March. See p. 69 for a complete listing of this month's Gallery, Band, and Events reviews. Daily events listings begin on p. 69.

Comedy & Performance Art

- Comic B. T., Mar. 1–3
- The Ark Storytelling Festival, Mar. 2–4
- Ann Arbor Poetry Slam, Mar. 6
- Comedy duo Full Impact, Mar. 8–10
- *Dance on Camera Festival* (U-M Dance Department), Mar. 10 & 11
- Tamango's Urban Tap, Mar. 14
- Ann Arbor Youth Poetry Slam, Mar. 15
- Comic Mike Green, Mar. 15–17
- Comic Tom Mabe, Mar. 22–24
- *This American Life* storyteller Ira Glass, Mar. 24
- Bread and Puppet Theater, Mar. 25
- Comic Jackie Kashian, Mar. 29–31
- DWOT Productions Women's History Month Celebration, Mar. 31

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *The Subject Was Roses* (Purple Rose Theater), Mar. 1–4, 7–11, & 13–17
- *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (Michigan Classical Repertory Theater), Mar. 1–4 & 8–11
- *Choreographers Showcase* (Terpsichore's Kitchen), Mar. 2 & 3
- *Fuddy Meers* (U-M Basement Arts), Mar. 8–10
- *Desdemona: A Play about a Handkerchief* (ReActive Productions), Mar. 8–11
- *Candida* (Performance Network), Mar. 8–11, 15–18, 22–24, & 29–31
- *Godspell* (St. Mary's Student Parish), Mar. 9 & 10
- *The Complete Works of Shakespeare Abridged* (U-M Residential College Players), Mar. 9 & 10
- *Rosa de dos Aromas* (Teatro Latino), Mar. 11
- *Playfest 2007* (U-M Theater Department), Mar. 13–18
- *Ashen* (Nightfire Dance Theater), Mar. 15
- *The Bartered Bride* (U-M Opera Theater), Mar. 15–18
- *The Tempest* (Ann Arbor Civic Theater), Mar. 15–18
- *Spring into Action* (People Dancing), Mar. 16
- *Gypsy* (Saline Area Players), Mar. 16–18
- *Lysistrata* (U-M Residential College), Mar. 17 & 18
- *2nd Annual Home Season* (Peter Sparling Dance Company), Mar. 22
- *The Crucible* (U-M Basement Arts), Mar. 22–24
- *Hercules Leaves His Mark* (Greenhills School), Mar. 22–25
- *Hazing the Monkey* (P.T.D. Productions), Mar. 22–25 & 29–31
- *Assassins* (U-M MUSKET), Mar. 23–25
- *The Good Person of Setzuan* (EMU Theater Department), Mar. 23–25 & 29–31
- *A Wider Lens* (U-M Dance Department), Mar. 29–31
- *The Grand Duke* (U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society), Mar. 29–31
- *Playing for Time* (U-M Theater Department), Mar. 30 & 31
- U-M Residential College Deutsches Theater, Mar. 31

Ethnic & Traditional Music

- De Temps Antan (French Canadian), Mar. 5
- Boys of the Lough (Irish), Mar. 6
- Rosalie Sorrels (folk), Mar. 8
- Mady Kouyate & the Heat of Africa (Senegalese), Mar. 15
- Saline Fiddlers (folk), Mar. 17

Les Liaisons Dangereuses

The Michigan Classical Repertory Theater performs Christopher Hampton's dramatization of Les Liaisons Dangereuses *at the Riverside Arts Center March 1–4 and 8–11.*

Pop, Rock, Blues, & Jazz

- Bruce Robison (alt-country), Mar. 1
- Elana James (country swing), Mar. 1
- The Paybacks (rock 'n' roll), Mar. 2
- Jazzistry (jazz), Mar. 2
- Uncle Earl (old-time), Mar. 4
- Dog on Wheels (jazz-rock), Mar. 4
- The Clipse (hip-hop), Mar. 4
- Pelican (trance-metal), Mar. 6
- Jeremy Kittel Band (fiddle fusion), Mar. 7
- Akron/Family (avant-bluegrass), Mar. 8
- King Wilkie (bluegrass), Mar. 9
- Rachel Z (jazz), Mar. 9
- Ember Swift (singer-songwriter), Mar. 10
- Claudia Schmidt Quartet (jazz), Mar. 10
- Alejandro Escovedo Duo (roots-rock), Mar. 11
- Jeffrey Foucault (singer-songwriter), Mar. 12
- Bitch & the Exciting Conclusion (avant-folk), Mar. 13
- The Colour (rock 'n' roll), Mar. 13
- Wynton Marsalis & Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Mar. 15
- Marshall Chapman (country-rock singer-songwriter), Mar. 16
- Millish (Irish fusion), Mar. 16
- Gilberto Gil (Brazilian pop), Mar. 16
- Grazyna Auguscik (jazz), Mar. 16
- The Dirty Americans (rock 'n' roll), Mar. 16
- Kurt Elling (jazz), Mar. 17
- Lesley Gore (singer-songwriter), Mar. 18
- Siegel-Schwall Band (blues), Mar. 20
- La Guitara (guitar collective), Mar. 22
- Bill Staines (singer-songwriter), Mar. 23
- Tierney Sutton (jazz), Mar. 23
- Mountain Heart (bluegrass), Mar. 24
- John Jorgenson Quintet (jazz), Mar. 25
- Roland Vazquez Quartet (jazz), Mar. 25
- The Long Winters (indie rock), Mar. 25
- Antje Duvekot (singer-songwriter), Mar. 26
- Amy Speace & the Tearjerkers (alt-country), Mar. 27
- Riggs/Sternhagen/McCormack Trio (jazz), Mar. 28
- Richard Shindell (singer-songwriter), Mar. 28
- Keb' Mo' (blues), Mar. 28
- The Roches (a cappella), Mar. 29
- VAST (postgrunge rock), Mar. 29
- Judy Piazza (pop-folk), Mar. 30
- Terri Hendrix (singer-songwriter), Mar. 30
- Pablo Ziegler Quintet (tango jazz), Mar. 30
- Sheryl Bailey Three (jazz), Mar. 30
- River Raisin Ragtime Revue (early jazz), Mar. 31
- Charlie King (populist singer-songwriter), Mar. 31
- David Krakauer's Klezmer Madness, Mar. 31

Classical & Religious Music

- U-M Music School Chopin Piano Series, Mar. 6, 13, 20, 24, 27, & 31
- Mezzo-soprano Jane Irwin & pianist Nico de Villiers, Mar. 7
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Mar. 10
- Violinist Midori, Mar. 11
- Ensemble Caprice, Mar. 14
- Saxophonist & electronic musician Michael Straus, Mar. 15
- Pianist Murray Perahia, Mar. 17
- Boychoir of Ann Arbor, Mar. 18
- Cellist Chris Wild & violinist Austin Wulliman, Mar. 20
- Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Mar. 20
- Mezzo-soprano Terry Meerkov, Mar. 21
- Phoenix Ensemble, Mar. 23 & 24
- Sandor Slomovits's *Songs from the Haggadah*, Mar. 25
- Oud player Rahim AlHaj & percussionist Souhail Kaspar, Mar. 23
- Composer Osvaldo Golijov & the U-M Contemporary Directions Ensemble, Mar. 29
- DSO bassist Rick Robinson's CutTime Players, Mar. 30

Lectures & Readings

- Poet and essayist Ed Sanders, Mar. 3
- *New York Times* food writers Matt and Ted Lee, Mar. 6
- Novelist Steve Gillis, Mar. 6
- Poet Linda Gregerson, Mar. 7
- Fiction writer Liesel Litzenburger, Mar. 8
- Poet Richard Siken, Mar. 8
- Human rights scholar Samantha Power, Mar. 9
- Poet Susan Hutton, Mar. 13
- Poet Dennis O'Driscoll, Mar. 14
- Novelist Chimamanda Adichie, Mar. 14
- Poet Joe Wenderoth, Mar. 15
- Poet Sarah Manguso, Mar. 15
- Novelist Dave Eggers, Mar. 16
- Poet Carolyn Forche, Mar. 19
- Novelist Zelda Lockhart, Mar. 20
- Poet Paisley Rekdal, Mar. 22
- Novelist Patrick Elkins, Mar. 23
- Poet Maggie Nelson, Mar. 28
- Poet Laura Kasischke, Mar. 29
- Novelist Michael Byers, Mar. 29
- Essayist Ander Monson, Mar. 29
- Polish poet & activist Krzysztof Czyzewski, Mar. 30

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Collie Dog Show, Mar. 2–4
- Dawn Dance Weekend, Mar. 2–4
- Waterloo Natural History Association Maple Sugar Festival, Mar. 10 & 11
- Southeast Michigan Science Fair, Mar. 10
- Schwaben Verein Bockbier Fest, Mar. 10
- Zingerman's 25th Anniversary "Festival of Flavors," Mar. 11
- Builders Home and Improvement Show, Mar. 16–18
- National Science Olympiad regionals, Mar. 17
- Dexter Pioneer Craft Fair, Mar. 17
- Ann Arbor Orchid Society Festival, Mar. 17 & 18
- Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club "Melody on Ice," Mar. 23 & 24
- Bricks for Brains Lego "Brick Bash," Mar. 24
- Ann Arbor Powwow, Mar. 31

Films

- Ann Arbor Film Festival, Mar. 20–25
- "Best of the Banff Mountain Film Festival," Mar. 25 & 26

Family & Kids' Stuff

- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra family concert, Mar. 11
- Ann Arbor Concert Band Young People's Concert, Mar. 18
- EMU "Child's Play" concert, Mar. 18
- *Roland the Minstrel Pig* (Wild Swan Theater), Mar. 22–24
- *Circus Beyond Words* (OPUS Mime), Mar. 24
- Gemini family concert, Mar. 25
- *The Wiz* (Tappan Players), Mar. 29–31
- *Champions of the West* (Thurston Community Players), Mar. 29–31
- *The Trial of Tom Sawyer* (Young Actors Guild), Mar. 30 & 31

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- Huron River Watershed Council "Miller's Creek Film Festival," Mar. 27

A&D

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3.01 - 3.31

Events/Exhibitions: A&D 3rd Year Graduate Students

A primary aim of graduate creative research at A&D is to generate cross-disciplinary links with the University and Ann Arbor communities. These connections are demonstrated throughout the month of March, when A&D's third year graduate students present their thesis work at venues throughout the area. For information about these events and exhibitions go to **http://art-design.umich.edu/mfa2007.php**

3.04

Exhibition Reception: Jim Cogswell

An exhibition of paintings and mixed media works by A&D Professor Jim Cogswell

Reception
1:00 - 4:00pm

Flatlanders Art Gallery
11993 E. US 223
Blissfield, MI 49228

3.08

PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS SERIES

Presentation: William Pope.L, "Influence"

William Pope.L is a public artist who challenges audiences to address America's relationship to difference, questioning the constructed nature of social hierarchies based on race. **Co-sponsors: Center for Afroamerican and African Studies, American Culture, History of Art, and the Future of Minority Studies at Michigan**

Presentation
5:10pm

MICHIGAN THEATER
603 E. Liberty

3.09 - 3.30

Exhibition: School of Art & Design 5th Annual All Student Exhibition

A&D's most comprehensive exhibition of the year, soliciting work from all undergraduates and graduate students at the School.

Opening Receptions
March 9, 6:00-9:00pm

WORK
306 S. State

Jean Paul Slusser Gallery
2000 Bonisteel Blvd., 1st floor

Warren Robbins Gallery
2000 Bonisteel Blvd., 2nd floor

3.09

Exhibition: Attitude

A kinetic piece by A&D Associate Professor Michael Rodemer for installation in the Edward Scarlett Gallery, a mobile non-traditional gallery created by A&D graduate student Forest Bright. For location see **www.edwardscarlett.com**

3.09 - 3.31

Film Screening: Detroit's 10th International Film & Video Festival

Including three short videos by Assistant Professor Nick Tobier examining the curious kinetic possibilities between a performer and objects in the world, ranging from the spatial-audio properties of laundromat dryers to the disappearance of a dish towel.

Museum of New Art
7 North Saginaw Street
Pontiac, Michigan 48342

3.15

PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS SERIES

Presentation: David Small, "Big Thinking at the Small Design Firm"

By taking advantage of the computer's ability to display dynamic, flexible, and adaptive typography and imagery, the Small Design Firm, headed by David Small, invents new ways for people to read, interact with, and assimilate information. **Co-sponsor: AIGA Detroit, the professional association for design**

Presentation
5:10pm

MICHIGAN THEATER
603 E. Liberty

3.22

PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS SERIES

Presentation: Ken Jacobs, "Space/Time and Worries"

For more than forty years, director, cinematographer, actor and master of the avant garde, Ken Jacobs, has engaged in an aesthetic, social, and physiological critique of projected images. **Co-sponsors: U-M Screen Arts & Cultures and the Ann Arbor Film Festival**

Presentation
5:10pm

MICHIGAN THEATER
603 E. Liberty

3.24 - 7.15

Exhibition: Windsor Biennial 2007

Including color photographic and video studies focused on negotiating space and place by A&D graduate student Melanie Manos, and work by A&D graduate student Toby Millman inspired by her research, observations and experiences traveling in Palestine's West Bank. More info at **www.artgalleryofwindsor.com**

Art Gallery of Windsor (AGW)
401 Riverside Drive West, Windsor,
Ontario, N9A 7J1 Canada

3.27 - 4.11

Exhibition: Twelfth Annual Exhibition of Art by Michigan Prisoners

Now in its twelfth year, this exhibition includes more than 400 works of art by over 200 artists, as well an accompanying series of educational events. **For more information please contact 734-647-7673**

Opening Reception
March 27, 5:30-8:00pm

Duderstadt Center Gallery
2281 Bonisteel Blvd.

3.29

PENNY W. STAMPS DISTINGUISHED VISITORS SERIES

Presentation: Franz John, "Kunstkompatilbe Projekte"

Franz John works with human and mechanical interfaces, using new and old media to identify the barely noticeable and visualize it, making the unobservable visible through large-scale installations. **Co-sponsors: Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit & Taubman College of Architecture & Urban Planning.**

Presentation
5:10pm

MICHIGAN THEATER
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